

## Belgium may delay missile sitings

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgium is likely to postpone deployment of NATO cruise nuclear missiles, due to begin next March, if a U.S.-Soviet meeting in January leads to resumed arms control negotiations, a senior government source said Monday. He spoke after Prime Minister Wilfried Martens' Flemish Social Christian Party (CVP) called for a postponement in the light of planned Geneva talks between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. "If that meeting is a complete disaster with no result, then it is clear the government will take the decision to deploy. But if negotiations are going on, then the government will not take the decision," the source said. Under NATO plans to counter Soviet SS-20 rockets in Eastern Europe, Belgium is due to take 48 cruise missiles from next year. Kinlock reports on talks with Chernomko, page 8.

# Jordan Times

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## Hassan hosts dinner for Swiss leader

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan hosted a dinner Monday evening for Swiss Economy Minister Kurt Furgler who is heading a five-member delegation on a two-day official visit to Jordan. During the meeting Prince Hassan and Dr. Furgler discussed means of correcting the trade imbalance between the two countries and further scholarships and training for Jordanian students in Swiss universities and educational institutions. Earlier Monday Dr. Furgler met with Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani. (See earlier story on page 3)

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## Arafat says 'Arab ruler' ready to bomb PNC hall

AMMAN (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat said Monday an Arab ruler, whom he did not name, was ready to bomb the hall where the Palestine National Council (PNC) is at present meeting in Amman. Mr. Arafat made the charge in an impromptu comment to defend the tough security measures enforced here which require everyone at the meeting to be searched several times a day. "The security arrangements are agreed with the Jordanian authorities. We all know that an Arab ruler is ready to bomb this hall, to do anything to make the council fail," he said.

## Iraq accuses Iran of forcing PoWs to change religion

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said in a report released Monday that Iran was forcing captured Iraqi Christians to convert to the Islamic faith. The report was given to reporters Monday by Information and Culture Minister Laili Nasir Al-Jassim, who said Iraqis captured in the Gulf war were being exposed to "most horrible methods of torture, both physical and moral."

## ICRC rejects Iranian charges of 'spying'

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Monday that Iranian charges of espionage and spying were baseless. "All these accusations have no foundation," a Red Cross spokeswoman said in response to inquiries. "We have already referred to this campaign of calumnies and have nothing to add."

## Israel extends ban on Palestinian journalist

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli occupation authorities have renewed for six months an order barring a Palestinian journalist from the occupied West Bank from leaving the Dheisheh refugee camp where he lives, military sources said Monday. Hani Faraj, 28, has been confined to the walled camp of the outskirts of Bethlehem for 18 months for "undefined" security reasons. A military source said the "restriction order" which was due to expire Dec. 1 has been renewed. Mr. Faraj is a prominent writer of anti-occupation articles in Arabic language newspapers published in Jerusalem.

## Pakistan denies shelling Afghan area

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Monday denied an Afghan charge that it forces shelled an Afghan border area on Nov. 20, killing a boy and damaging property. Afghanistan protested to Pakistan on Wednesday over what it described as a Pakistani shelling attack on the Barikot area of the southeastern province of Kunar. A Pakistani Foreign Ministry statement Monday rejected the charge as "false and baseless."

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## PNC resolutions expected to be 'flexible, softer' on Jordan, Egypt

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — On the fifth day of meetings of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Monday, Palestinian officials settled down to formulate the final draft of political resolutions which are believed to include "more flexible and softer" stances regarding relations with Jordan and Egypt.

According to well-informed sources, the resolutions will evade a direct and clear reply to Jordan's call for a joint political initiative stressing instead on "the points of agreement" as a basis for the continuation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's relations with the Kingdom.

His Majesty King Hussein proposed, during his inaugural speech at the PNC last Thursday, the formulation of a joint political initiative based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for an international conference to solve the Palestinian question. Palestinian officials have so far reiterated rejection of the Resolution 242 on the basis that it refers to the Palestinians as "refugees" and denies them the right to statehood.

Yet, at the same time they endorse the idea of a peace conference and consider it as a basis for developing a joint Jordanian-Palestinian platform, particularly that the King clearly called for the full participation of the PLO on an equal footing with the other parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Hence, the sources explained, the PNC resolutions under preparation will reiterate earlier PNC calls for establishing confederational ties between Jordan and an independent Palestinian state on the now Israeli-occupied West Bank.

## Katyushas land in 'Finger of Galilee'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Two Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanon hit fields inside Israel in an area known as "the Finger of Galilee," military sources said Monday.

The sources would only say the Katyushas fell in the "Finger of Galilee" border area. That area begins at the Israeli border north of Kiryat Shmona and stretches some 20 kilometres to the south.

When Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982, it declared that the aim of the invasion was to make the border "safe" from attacks.

603rd soldier dies

The Israeli army also announced in Tel Aviv Monday that an Israeli soldier died of wounds he sustained in an ambush in South Lebanon on Nov. 12.

The announcement said Sgt. Yehuda Cohen, 40, was injured when light arms fire was directed at a car he was riding in near the town of Jibchit.

He was the 603rd Israeli to die in South Lebanon since the Israeli invasion in June 1982, according to official Israeli counts.

On Monday, only hours before Lebanese-Israeli talks resumed on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, resistance forces launched two attacks against Israeli troops in South Lebanon. Israel's military command reported one commando was killed during a fire-fight near the Ansar detention centre where hundreds of Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners are being held by the Israeli occupation forces.

In the second attack, a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at an Israeli position near the village of Douch.

Resolutions adopted by the 16th session of the PNC have called for confederational ties with Jordan, but did not lay the basis for joint political moves that precede the liberation of the Israeli-occupied territories. Thus, the Amman session's resolutions are expected to be "more advanced" in dealing with joint efforts to solve the Palestinian question, the sources told the Jordan Times.

Resolutions concerning the PLO's relations with Egypt are also going to allow more room for the PLO leadership's political moves.

The head of the PLO's Political Department, Farouk Kaddoumi, clearly stated Saturday that future relations with Egypt should not be in violation of Arab summit resolutions but, should be based on helping Egypt to disentangle itself from the 1979 American-sponsored Camp David treaty with Israel which prompted the Arab League to sever relations with Cairo.

According to the sources the Palestinian formula on how to achieve the above goal through a united Arab stand will be embodied in a resolution which will recognise and welcome steps made so far by Egypt to distance itself from the Camp David accord. The resolution will also call for a joint initiative.

(Continued on page 4)



His Majesty King Hussein Monday receives the newly elected speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh (Petra photo)

## King receives PNC speaker

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received the newly elected speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh.

Sheikh Saeh, who was elected by the PNC on Saturday to replace Khaled Al Fahom, delivered to King Hussein a letter expressing his thanks in reply to a congratulatory cable the King sent him on the occasion of his being elected PNC speaker. Sheikh Saeh's letter expressed appreciation of and pride in King Hussein's stand in support of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and wished the King every success in his endeavours to liberate Jerusalem and Palestine, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

"The historical and distinguished relation between Jordan and Palestine warrants a true and continuous cooperation between Jordan under Your Majesty's wise leadership and Palestine under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people to achieve the common aspirations to achieve the liberation of Jerusalem," Sheikh Saeh's letter said.

In a statement to Petra following the audience with King Hussein, Sheikh Saeh said his talks with the King dealt with the call the King made for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to liberate the Israeli-occupied territories.

Sheikh Saeh told Petra that the PNC will discuss the King's call, which was made at the opening session of the council Thursday.

## PNC speakers denounce Syrian interference in PLO affairs

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament, Monday heard attacks on Syria, a debate on Jordanian-Palestinian relations and calls to step up armed struggle against Israel to liberate the occupied Arab territories.

On the fifth day of the council session, PNC members reiterated their rejection of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for a settlement to the Palestinian question, but called for closer cooperation with Jordan to reach a formula for an initiative.

"Whether we like it or not, we have a strong cohesion between the Palestinians and Jordanian peoples that could never be ignored," PNC member Sba'at Al Hout told the session. "We rejected (Resolution) 242, however, since we have to formulate our own initiative and make it clear to the world," he said.

Referring to calls for stepped up armed struggle against Israel, Mr. Hout said that all fronts where the PLO can fight from "have been closed to us — the Jordanian front, the Syrian front, the Egyptian front and the Lebanese front."

"How can this armed struggle be carried out?" he asked. "I would appreciate that those who speak about armed struggle specify and suggest how this could be done."

Mr. Hout said the PLO cannot separate itself from the Arab World and envisaged a "Cairo-Amman-Damascus-Beirut alliance," as a starting point for any peace process.

Mr. Hout criticised fellow PNC members for their slogans and called for more self-criticism and evaluation. "We say at the rostrum the opposite of what we say amongst ourselves," he said.

The leader of the Arab Liberation Front, Abdul Rahim Ahmad in his speech launched the

(Continued on page 2)

## Lebanese-Israeli negotiations flounder over UNIFIL role

NAQOURA, Lebanon (Agencies) — Troop withdrawal negotiations between Israel and Lebanon bogged down Monday over wide differences about the future of South Lebanon after an Israeli withdrawal.

Spokesmen from both countries said the most important thing about the United Nations-sponsored talks is that they are still continuing. The talks are to resume Thursday.

Lebanese delegation spokesman Lt. Col. Bassam Saad said "nothing really positive" emerged from the fifth session. Israeli delegation spokesmen declined to characterise the talks as deadlocked but said "we didn't get

one inch closer to each other" on Monday.

Israel has called for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to deploy in the northern part of the area currently occupied by some 12,000 Israeli troops and wants the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia to control a strip north of the border.

"UNIFIL will be at points negotiated between UNIFIL and the Lebanese government," Col. Saad told reporters at the U.N. force's headquarters in this Lebanese village near Israel's border.

"These points are not yet clear in our mind and they will be negotiated separately," he added. A joint communique released at

the end of Monday's talks said negotiators discussed the role of UNIFIL, but a conference source said the negotiators discussed only the current U.N. role and not its role after an Israeli withdrawal.

A statement from chief Lebanese negotiator Brig. Gen. Mohammad Al Hajj read in English by a Lebanese army lieutenant noted that UNIFIL troops were not deployed all the way to the Israeli border, as called for in the U.N. Resolution 425.

That resolution was passed to bring an end to the Israeli 1978 invasion of Lebanon. It calls for UNIFIL troops to be deployed from the Israeli border to the Litani River, which reaches up to 32 kilometres from the frontier.

## Army begins Beirut deployment

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese army put into effect a security plan early Monday morning that called for beefing up its positions along the "green line" between east and west Beirut and the removal of militiamen from the streets.

The army began its deployment at 3 a.m. (0100 GMT), sending patrols of tanks and armoured personnel into the areas around crossings between the predominantly Christian eastern sector and mostly Muslim west Beirut, according to radio reports.

The military command has not made public the details of the plan, but the leftist daily newspaper As Safir said it would take 10 days to put the army into place in the capital.

Monday's troop deployment, which took place after a 24-hour delay for "technical reasons," was the first phase of a plan to restore state authority in militia-held areas beyond Beirut.

In the next stage, due to start on Sunday, troops are to occupy the coast road to Israel's Awali River line 40 kilometres south of Beirut and to the port of Tripoli 71 kilometres north through areas controlled by rival militias.

During a mid-morning tour of the city by Associated Press reporters and photographers, militiamen were seen unarmed and without uniforms inside, in front of near offices or positions close to the "green line." No clashes were reported with the army.

Falange Party militiamen were seen in the same situation in east Beirut.

Army troops carefully searched and checked identities of travellers on all "green line" crossings, causing traffic jams. At the downtown Place Etiele, one soldier said "not a single shot" was fired in his area for four days.

Another soldier said troops have been instructed to stop and

arrest any armed irregulars and confiscate suspected militia vehicles anywhere in town.

At the shell-pocked 25-storey Holiday Inn in west Beirut's once-plush hotel district, the green flags of the dominant Shite militia, "Amal," still fluttered at the entrance. But a large cannon on wheels was covered with rosy piece of cloth.

At the nearby western entrance to the waterfront crossing through the port, a dozen unarmed militiamen in civilian clothes sat on chairs atop an earth mound near the red flag of their Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

Hawker-Hunter jetfighters of the Lebanese air force made low runs over Beirut shortly after the security plan was launched. Booms echoed through the city at around midday and the state radio said they were caused by high-flying Israeli jets that crashed the sound barrier.

## Mitterrand begins visit to Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in Syria Monday for two days of talks expected to focus on Arab calls for an international Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices.

The visit, the first by a French president since Syria became independent from France in 1946, marks the second stage of a personal mission by Mr. Mitterrand to seek ways of breaking the deadlock in the peace process.

He launched his initiative in July with visits to Jordan and Egypt, and is due to confer with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres in Paris early next month.

Mr. Mitterrand is due to have two rounds of private talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, widely regarded as a champion of hard-line Arab opposition to any compromise with Israel before returning to France on Wednesday.

Syrian officials have indicated Mr. Assad will be seeking French support for a proposal, initially made by the Soviet Union in 1982, for a U.N.-sponsored conference including all parties to the conflict.

The idea has gained widespread backing in the Arab World, notably from Jordan. But it has been rejected by Israel and the United States.

Replying to King Hussein's call for such a conference to be convened as quickly as possible, the French leader said last July: "I wish as you do that it may be possible for all the parties directly concerned to meet around the same negotiating table."

Mr. Mitterrand, accompanied by his wife, was welcomed at Damascus airport by President Assad and Abdallah Abmar, Mr. Assad's top assistant.

## Iraq, U.S. restore diplomatic ties

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq and the United States Monday restored diplomatic relations, broken off by Iraq after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The move was announced in a joint U.S.-Iraqi statement issued here.

It said the restoration was agreed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Iraqi Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz at a meeting Monday in Washington.

The announcement said the two countries' diplomatic missions would be stepped up from "interest sections" to embassies as from Monday and that ambassadors would be exchanged as soon as possible.

In Washington, the White House also announced the resumption, which had been expected for some time, after a meeting between President Reagan and Mr. Aziz.

Iraq broke off diplomatic ties with Washington after the Middle

East war of June 1967.

Relations remained cool but improved in recent years as U.S. relations with Iraq's neighbour and Gulf war foe, Iran, deteriorated after the fall of the Shah and the American hostage crisis.

A sign of the improving U.S.-Iraqi relations was the recent reopening in Baghdad of the U.S. Information Service bureau.

U.S. diplomatic affairs in Iraq have been handled by a U.S. interests section at the Belgian embassy.

Western diplomats here said efforts by the U.S. to persuade its allies to limit arms sales to Iran had established a better climate for restoring links.

Renewing diplomatic relations would not, however, alter the official U.S. stance of neutrality in the four-year Gulf war. U.S. officials said, Iraq retains close ties with the Soviet Union, the major supplier of its armaments.

Washington does not have diplomatic links with Iran.

## Security measures successful, Arar says

By Randa Habib  
Agence France Presse

AMMAN — The intensive security measures adopted by the Jordanian authorities to protect participants of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman have so far been successful and no attempts have been made to violate security, Interior Minister Suleiman Arar said Monday.

In a statement to the French news agency, Agence France Presse, Mr. Arar dismissed as insignificant the discovery Saturday of an explosive device at the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) as it was "very small."

Commenting on the ongoing PNC sessions and discussions of the Palestinian leadership over a call by His Majesty King Hussein for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to solve the Palestinian problem, Mr. Arar said he did not expect the council to adopt any definite resolution in response to the King's call.

He said the proposal was left to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to decide on and that the issue was not subject to study by the council.

In his speech opening the council meetings Thursday, King Hussein proposed a framework for a Jordanian-Palestinian joint initiative to solve the Middle East conflict.

In response to a question on tension between Syria and Jordan after the convening of the PNC in Amman, the interior minister stressed that Jordan will not respond to the media campaign launched by Syria against Jordan and, in any case, "there is absolutely no room for severing diplomatic relations with Syria."

Mr. Arar said there might be attempts to establish another organisation "which would in no way could be a replacement of the PLO." He said the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian people were in support of Fatah which represents all sectors of the Palestinians committed to liberation hence this organisation represents the majority.

In conclusion, Mr. Arar emphasised that there were no Palestinian prisoners belonging to the PLO in Jordanian prisons and that the only Palestinians imprisoned in Jordan belong to dissident groups who rebelled against the PLO like the Abu Nidal group and other communist organisations.

## Somali hijackers extend deadline to blow up plane

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Somali hijackers holding 108 passengers on a commandeered airliner said Monday the Somali government had until eight a.m. (0500 GMT) Tuesday to meet their demands or they would blow up the plane.

An Ethiopian Foreign Ministry spokesman said negotiations with the hijackers had reached a delicate and extremely difficult stage. He would not elaborate.

He said the hijackers had agreed to a request by the Addis Ababa authorities to extend their deadline. The previous ultimatum expired at noon (0900 GMT) without incident.

Ethiopian officials said three Somali army officers seized the Boeing 707 during a flight from Mogadishu to Jeddah on Saturday and have since been joined by two passengers. They identified the gunmen's leader as a captain named Awad Aden Buedhan.

Two buses capable of carrying 100 people were Monday parked at the main gate of the airport, increasing speculation that an end to the drama might be in sight.

Somalia, whose relations with the Ethiopian government are tense, was negotiating with Addis Ababa through the Italian government, which has close relations with both states.

Ethiopia backs rebel groups fighting to overthrow Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre, whose government claims the Ogaden desert region of southeast Ethiopia as part of its territory.

The hijackers are demanding the release of 13 prominent Somalis, including a former foreign minister, and a reprieve for seven

youths they say were to have been executed Sunday for anti-state activities.

Somalia formally rejected the demands Sunday, but diplomats said the Mogadishu government had let it be known that the death sentences still had to be confirmed by President Siad Barre.

The diplomats said the fact that Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde was personally leading negotiations with the three army hijackers was proof of the importance it attached to a peaceful solution to the three-day drama.

But Somalia said Monday it was dismayed by the way the hijacking had been handled by Ethiopia and accused Addis Ababa of prolonging the crisis.

A spokesman for the Somali Foreign Ministry, in a statement on Somali Radio monitored in Nairobi, said Mogadishu "places full responsibility on the Ethiopian government for the lives of the passengers and the safety of the plane."

It urged the international community to place "heavy pressure on Ethiopia to discharge its international responsibilities."

The Somali spokesman said Mogadishu was also asking the international Red Cross to check on the welfare of the hostages on board the aircraft, held in the stifling heat of Ethiopia's dry season since Saturday morning.

All the hostages are thought to be men after the hijackers released 19 women, children and elderly people on Saturday. They include two Italians, three Yemenis and an American.



## 2 Home - Middle East news

## GCC to consider peace bid if Iran, Iraq respond

**KUWAIT (R)** — The six Gulf Arab states will consider fresh peace efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war only when the two combatants are ready to respond, Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah said Monday.

He added that the Gulf states had done all in their power to end the war peacefully and had pledged their "unlimited readiness to resume their efforts as soon as we see that there is the slightest hope of success."

Sheikh Sabah was speaking at a press conference ahead of summit talks here Tuesday grouping the leaders of Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, at which the four-year-old war will be discussed.

The Kuwaiti minister said other topics on the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit's agenda would include cooperation in defence and internal security and progress towards integrating the economies of the six states.

"We are concerned with the military aspect of defending our area... so that the armies would be under one umbrella if any state faced an external threat," he said, but did not elaborate.

Sheikh Sabah said he hoped a much-delayed Arab summit, originally planned for Saudi Arabia this month, would be held soon.

The GCC will "never" side with Iraq in its war against Iran, but would pursue political efforts to mediate an end to the 50-month-old conflict, the Kuwaiti foreign minister said.

"We (GCC) are not a party to the war and never will be," Sheikh Sabah said. "We have been trying

as much as we can, through political channels, to bring the war to an end."

He cited diplomatic efforts by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to check air attacks by Iranian warplanes on commercial shipping in neutral Gulf waters earlier this year.

"We took our case to the U.N. (Security Council) to protect neutral shipping," he said.

"Iran has no reason to doubt the GCC's desire for peace in the Gulf," said Sheikh Sabah. "I also emphasise that the GCC countries are irrevocably resolved to defend themselves by every possible means."

The GCC armed forces twice conducted joint military exercises during the past 13 months, to crystallise "harmony in defence tactics" and create a unified high command.

In addition, GCC officials spoke of plans underway to assemble a combined rapid deployment force which was believed to touch off resentment among Arab nationalists.

On the economic front, the summit also was to "firm up" joint action toward implementing the GCC economic cooperation agreement, unify import tariffs and develop a joint policy on imports and crude oil sales.

Responding to a question, Sheikh Sabah said the summit will not discuss the question of establishing diplomatic ties between

the GCC countries and the Soviet Union.

"Although Kuwait has relations with the Soviet Union and the rest of the Eastern Bloc countries, the summit agenda includes no topic on that score that would force any country to emulate Kuwait's example."

Kuwait is the only Gulf state to have full diplomatic ties with Moscow. Arab diplomatic sources said that the Kuwaiti leadership has been trying to talk the GCC allies into "balancing" their East-West relations by exchanging diplomatic representation with the Soviets.

Turning to Egypt, Sheikh Sabah said the summit "deems it best that relations with Egypt be resumed by Arab summit decision, since the rupture (with Cairo) was the result of an Arab summit decision."

The question of relations with Egypt, he said, should not "precipitate wider gaps and more acute differences among the Arab powers."

Most of the Arab League member countries broke off ties with Egypt in protest against its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Sheikh Sabah expressed "full support" for the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its efforts to reunite its ranks. "He ducked a question about the GCC stance on the possibility of joint Palestinian-Jordanian action to join the Arab-Israeli peace process."

"That would be up to the Palestinians," he said. "And if they opt to join the peace drive, then the GCC and the rest of the Arab League would discuss this and adopt a stance on it."



**IN CLOSE COUNSEL:** Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat (left) and Sheikh Abdul Hamid Saad during a brief break in the morning's session of the council meeting.

## Palestinian family marks 'wedding' of W. Bank kin shot by Israelis

**BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)** — Women, their eyes brimming with tears, distributed sweets, young men chanted and danced to the beating of drums. Guests carried baskets of white and red flowers, symbolising purity and sacrifice according to Islamic tradition.

The scene was a wedding celebration by the 200 members of the Palestinian Tamimi clan in Iraq, but with one missing element — the groom had been shot to death by Israeli soldiers only a few days earlier during a demonstration in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Bakir Ali Al Tamimi was to have been married last Friday. He died Thursday of a gunshot wound suffered when Israeli troops opened fire in Ramallah on a Palestinian march that began over the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Jordan and ended in a rock-throwing confrontation with Israeli soldiers.

Kamal Al Tamimi, a relative living here, said the clan decided that the best way to give meaning to Bakir's death at the age of 21 was by going ahead with their wedding festivities, held Sunday in Kamal's home.

"The clan's Diwan (council) held a meeting in Amman and decided to celebrate his wedding rather than mourn his death," Kamal said. "The decision was based on the sense of pride that Bakir has bestowed on the whole clan by his martyrdom."

"We are proud because Bakir was martyred while doing an honourable thing. He was fighting for a cause," he said.

The American branch of the Tamimi clan also plans a wedding celebration, but at a later date.

Mahmoud Al Tamimi of Paterson, New Jersey, said in a telephone interview that he would delay the celebration of the 54 members of the clan in the United States until one of Bakir's relatives recovered from the shock of his death.

Mahmoud said that Bakir's ailing aunt, Rayya, left home before his martyrdom and arrived in Paterson Friday without knowing what had happened. She brought with her invitation cards to the original wedding and was urging the family to send cables of congratulations.

He said that cables were sent, "but they were not exactly of the same nature that Rayya had in mind."

Mahmoud added: "We will celebrate this honourable Palestinian wedding in the United States very soon. We only have to inform Rayya in a careful way. She will have to know sooner or later, and I am sure she will share our feelings after she overcomes the immediate shock."

Similar ceremonies were planned by Tamimi relatives in the West Bank, Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, family members said.

Bakir was to have married Hourriya Al Tamimi, 18 and a clan member, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank village of Nabi Saleh.

Kamal said that according to the Diwan, Hourriya "was celebrating the symbolic wedding at home" following Bakir's burial Friday in Jerusalem.

He added that he hoped she would get over her grief and, eventually, marry. "She is a widow of a martyr, and every Palestinian man would be proud to propose to her," Kamal said.

Kamal said that Bakir was taking part in a demonstration in support of Yasser Arafat and his continued leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Despite opposition from Syrian and Libyan-backed PLO factions, Mr. Arafat succeeded last Thursday in convening the long-stalled Palestine National Council, or parliament in exile.

Mr. Arafat termed the council meeting "the session of martyrs Bakir Al Tamimi and Sharif Khalil Taibi." Taibi, a 23-year-old engineering student, had been killed in a Ramallah demonstration by Israeli soldiers last Wednesday.

The ceremony here, except for the tears, was a traditional wedding. The guests brought flowers and applauded the folk songs sung by a dozen young people from the Iraqi branch of the Palestinian Students Union.

## Israel says EC states are 'one-sided'

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — A senior Foreign Ministry official accused the 10 member nations of the European Community (EC) on Monday of adopting an imbalanced pro-Arab approach to the Middle East conflict.

The Assistant Director-General of the Ministry, Yesahayau Aug, made his remarks in a meeting with diplomats from eight of the countries, according to a ministry official who spoke on condition he was not identified.

Israel has some information that the EC summit planned for Dec. 3 in Dublin may produce a statement on the Arab-Israeli conflict, the official said.

Israel was concerned about "increasing recognition by EC countries of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as a negotiating partner" for a Middle East peace settlement, the official said.

"Israel is not against a European contribution to the peace process in the area, in due course, by encouraging a dialogue between Israel and her neighbours," he said.

"But as Israel sees it, Europe will not help this possibility if it will not change its one-sided, imbalanced attitude toward elements of the conflict."

Israel also was worried by promises made by Greek President Andreas Papandreu to Syrian and Jordanian leaders during visits to their countries earlier this month, the official said.

He said Papandreu told them "he sees it as his task to represent their side in the (EC) summit."

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He said Papandreu told them "he sees it as his task to represent their side in the (EC) summit."

He said.

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## Rifaat Assad returns to Syria from Europe

**BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)** — Vice President Rifaat Assad — once said to be exiled by his brother, President Hafez Assad — returned to Syria from Paris on Monday, sources arriving from the Syrian capital reported.

The return of the president's younger brother, a powerful military figure in Syria, came in advance of a visit to Damascus scheduled Monday by French President Francois Mitterrand.

Sources in Damascus had said earlier that the return of Rifaat Assad would signal that he had patched up his differences with his brother and would retain a position in Syria's power structure. The Syrian government position has been that no differences existed between the brothers.

None of those who would talk about the president's brother would allow their names to be used. The sources who reported Rifaat's return said there was a spate of shooting in the air early Monday morning, apparently to mark the homecoming of Vice President Assad.

Rifaat Assad, who commanded the "Defence Brigades" that provided security for the capital, had not been in Syria since May 28 when he and a group of other military men went to Moscow for talks with Soviet leaders.

He has been living since in Paris and Geneva, Switzerland.

There have been various reports in recent months that he was exiled after he and other military commanders began moving troops and tanks around in Damascus, during an illness by President Assad last winter, in competition to see who would take over should the president die.

In an interview in September with the West German magazine Der Spiegel, Syrian Defence Minister Gen. Mustafa Tlas was quoted as saying Rifaat Assad had been declared "persona non grata" by President Assad.

"The man whose name you mentioned has been declared persona non grata to us," Gen. Tlas told the Hamburg-based magazine. "When our president tells someone to beat it to Geneva, then that person goes to Geneva. Whoever says no to President Assad will be a head shorter."

The return of Rifaat also means Syria's ruling Baath Party can be expected to hold a congress soon to name a new regional party command, which again will include Rifaat as a member. The party's regional command is the most powerful body in Syria, and a congress to elect new members has been tentatively scheduled for mid-December.



**Rifaat Assad**  
A spokesman for Rifaat Assad, later quoted Gen. Tlas as saying he had been misquoted by the magazine, but Gen. Tlas made no statement.

The spokesman for the Baath Party, Assad, said in a statement in September that the Syrian president was in Geneva for health reasons and would soon be returning to Damascus.

Rifaat's return also was signalled on Nov. 11 when an order defining his duties as vice president in the official government record. Its publication came after similar documents outlining the duties of the other two men Hafez Assad named as vice presidents, Abdul Halim Khaddam and Zuhair Masharqa.

But sources said the decree for Rifaat Assad went further than those for the other two in that it said he would undertake any "special duties" the president might assign.

The sources said this was taken to mean Rifaat was being groomed to take over the country's leadership in the future. However, the sources said Mr. Hafez Assad was recovered from the heart trouble he suffered last winter and was in full control of the government.

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## Al-Azhar University shut down after riots

**CAIRO (R)** — Some 10,000 students of Cairo's Al Azhar University, one of Islam's oldest seats of learning, were shut out of classes Monday after campus riots.

Several people were hurt when the government, ordering Al-Azhar closed for two weeks, sent riot police to storm the campus early Monday and evict some 2,000 undergraduates staging a sit-in to back demands for Islamic Law (Sharia), better transport, cheaper books and improved grants.

Trouble flared at the 1,000-year-old university last week after a student was killed in a street accident involving a police vehicle.

Police say the driver has been held for trial.

Witnesses said several arrests were made as the riot squad moved in soon after midnight clearing buildings in the ancient university site near the Al-Azhar Mosque in central Al Hussein district and at a new campus in suburban Nasr City.

Students often rioted under the monarchy, toppled by Gamal Abdel Nasser in 1952, and under Mr. Nasser's successor, Anwar Sadat, but have been less active under President Hosni Mubarak in office since Muslim extremists killed Mr. Sadat in 1981.

## TV &amp; RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
15:00	Koran
17:15	Cartoons
16:00	Special News Bulletin (PNC)
16:40	Cartoons
17:40	Children's Programme
17:50	Children's Programme
18:00	Teleshock
18:50	Programmes Review
19:00	News in Arabic
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	News in Arabic
21:10	Arabic Series
22:10	Tomorrow's News Summary
22:30	News Summary
23:00	Religious Programmes

## FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30	German Programme
17:50	French Programme
18:00	News in French
18:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Comedy: Tom, Dick & Harriet
21:10	Science Information
22:00	News in English
22:15	The Yellow Rose

## RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News Desk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
11:00	News Summary
11:30	News Summary
12:00	Pop Session
12:30	News Summary
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	Science Fiction
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Science Report
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	Newsdesk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:30	Evening Show
22:00	News Headlines
22:30	Evening Show
23:00	News Headlines
23:30	Evening Show
24:00	News Headlines

## WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
10:00	Exhibition of Karen Nimer and Aziz Ammoura, at Jordan National Gallery (from Nov. 19 - 29)
10:00	Plastic Art Exhibition, Irbid, organised by Irbid Youth Centre in cooperation with Department and Culture and Arts (from 20-27 November)
10:00	An exhibition of watercolour painting by Jack Kaptein at the British Council (until Nov. 29)
10:00	An art exhibition entitled "Medicine" by Hussein Diab at 5 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (until Dec. 5)
10:00	A children play "A city without Love", adapted by Faid Al Shomali at 4:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Nov. 30)
10:00	Italian film week at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre until Nov. 28
10:00	Dr. Ghazi Bisbeh will lecture at 6:30 p.m. (Tuesday, Nov. 27), at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre lecture hall, on his latest season of excavations at Qasr Hallab.

## JORDAN CINE CLUB

10:00	Soviet film "Of Those Whom I Remember and Love" 5:00 p.m. at Opera Cinema Theatre. Followed by discussion.
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## CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre	Tel. 6610267
American Centre	44371
American Centre Library	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24046
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777
Haya Arts Centre	665195
Husseini Youth City	667181
Y.W.C.A.	441795
Y.W.M.C.A.	664251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	843555

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
06:50	Cairo (MS)
07:30	Aqaba (RJ)
08:30	Dubai (RJ)
09:45	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Jeddah (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:45	Dhahran (RJ)
10:00	Dubai, Bahrain (RJ)
10:10	Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
10:20	Beirut (RJ)
10:35	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:45	Muscat, Doha (RJ)
12:15	Bahrain (GF)
13:00	Moscow (SU)
14:40	Kuwait (KU)
16:15	Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:45	Tripoli (RJ)
20:15	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:30	Athens (OA)
20:40	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
20:50	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
22:00	Cairo (MS)
00:45	Cairo (RJ)
01:10	Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES:	
05:45	Cairo (RJ)
07:00	Beirut (RJ)
07:15	Aqaba (RJ)
07:30	Dubai (RJ)
11:15	Tripoli (RJ)
11:45	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00	Paris, London (RJ)
12:15	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:30	Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:30	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30	Baghdad (RJ)
13:00	Bahrain (GF)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:50	Moscow (SU)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:30	Doha, Dubai (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
22:00	Baghdad (RJ)
23:00	Cairo (MS)

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	
Ambulance .....	193, 775111
Firstaid, fire, police .....	199
Blood bank .....	778121
Civil Defence rescue .....	661111
Fire headquarters .....	72090-3
Police routine .....	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters .....	39141
Traffic police .....	56390-1
Electric Power Co. ....	36381-2
Municipal water service ..	77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..	(08) 53533
HOSPITALS	
Husseini Medical Centre ..	81381-32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amm ..	44281-4
Abdell Maternity, J. Amman ..	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity ..	42362
Matlab, J. Amman .....	36140
Palestine, Shamsi .....	664171-4
Shamsi Hospital .....	66231
University Hospital .....	84584
Der Al-Shifa, J. Husseini ..	667158
Al-Munshar Hospital .....	667227-9
The Islamic, Abdell .....	662922
Al-Ahli, Abdell .....	661164
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh .....	77701-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh .....	775111
Army, Marjeh .....	91611
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Najjar ..	775050
Dr. Mohammed Azman .....	818911
Mirchi pharmacy .....	770910
Al Sakam pharmacy .....	36730
Abu Ghazalah pharmacy .....	22590
Al Sayed pharmacy .....	43611
Ghazali pharmacy .....	(-1)
TAXIS:	
Noll taxi .....	44433
Grand Palace taxi .....	667079
Medial City taxi .....	81581
Faisal taxi .....	22051
Ramhied taxi .....	22021
Talal taxi .....	25021
IRBID	
Dr. Hameed Anqari .....	
Al Razi pharmacy .....	
ZARQA:	
Dr. Mahmoud Abu Maltajer ..	
Al Hadika pharmacy .....	
GENERAL	
Jordan Television .....	773111
Radios Jordan .....	774113
Ministry of Tourism .....	22281
Hotel companies .....	666412
Price companies .....	666176
Telephone:	
Jordan .....	18
Jordan and Middle East call ..	10
Overseas call .....	17
Cable or telex .....	11
Repair service .....	17
MARKET PRICES	
Upperlower price in Sls per kg.	
Apple (double red) .....	220/180
Apple (golden) .....	180/180
Apple (starline) .....	220/180
Banana .....	220/240
Banana (Mokamuni) .....	240/240
Beans .....	200/200
Broad beans .....	600/500
Cabbage .....	130/100
Cauliflower .....	720/650
Carrot .....	140/80
Cauliflower .....	130/100
Cucumber (large) .....	120/90
Cucumber (small) .....	240/180
Dates .....	200/150
Eggplant (large) .....	90/70
Eggplant (small) .....	170/130
Garlic .....	180/150
Grapefruit .....	250/200
Guava .....	120/90
Guava .....	240/180
Lemon .....	120/90
Mallow .....	200/200
Melons .....	130/100
Melon (large) .....	100/70
Melons (small) .....	150/120
Onion (dry) .....	170/140
Onion (green) .....	200/180
Olives .....	400/300
Oranges (Abu Sirra) .....	240/200
Oranges (Shamsi) .....	130/100
Pears .....	100/100
Pears (American) .....	240/200
Pepper (hot green) .....	140/100
Pepper (red) .....	200/180
Pepper (sweet) .....	200/180
Potatoes .....	120/90
Radishes .....	120/90
Squash .....	160/130
Tomatoes .....	200/180
Turnips .....	200/180



Switzerland to loan JD 8m for development projects

## Swiss delegation arrives for trade, economic cooperation discussions

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Kurt Furgler, Vice President of the Swiss Confederation and Minister of Public Economy in Switzerland, arrived in Amman Monday from Saudi Arabia at the head of a five-member Swiss delegation who are on a two-day official visit to Jordan. During his visit, Dr. Furgler will hold economic talks



Kurt Furgler

with Jordanian officials and will meet with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Swiss embassy sources told the Jordan Times.

The talks between the Jordanian side, led by Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani, and the Swiss side, headed by Dr. Furgler, will focus on economic cooperation and the rectification of a trade imbalance which is completely in Switzerland's favour.

Dr. Furgler was quoted on arrival as saying that Switzerland would extend soft, long-term loans to finance development projects in Jordan. Officials said that the loan could total 45 million Swiss Francs (JD 8 million), and added that the loan was being extended to correct the trade imbalance.

Switzerland imports nothing from Jordan, which buys gold, jewellery, textiles, machinery and equipment from the Swiss. Swiss exports to Jordan in the first nine

months of this year amounted to JD 16 million compared to JD 22 million in the whole of 1983.

The two sides will also review the possibility of increasing the number of scholarships provided by the Swiss government to Jordanians in various fields, particularly in hotel administration, tourism and higher education, the sources said.

Accompanying Dr. Furgler on his visit to Jordan are ambassador Benedikt Von Tschamer, delegate of the Federal Council for Trade at the Ministry of Public Economy, Dr. Alois Heuberger from the federal office of Foreign Economy Affairs, Mr. Rudolf Schmid, director of the Zurich branch of the Swiss Office for Development of Trade and Mr. Elias Atia, secretary of the Swiss-Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Geneva.

Dr. Furgler, who is returning a visit by Dr. Anani to Switzerland last year, will return home Tuesday.

## Symposium urges rapid action to solve plight of children, juvenile problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — An 'International Symposium on the Protection of Children' concluded its work Monday after making a number of specific recommendations on problems relating to children in armed conflict, abandoned street children and adoption and international traffic of children. The symposium also urged an early adoption of the Draft Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In an official communication, which was unanimously adopted and addressed to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in his capacity as Co-Chairman of the International Commission on International Humanitarian Issues, the participants reiterated their will to foster and facilitate development designed to ensure to children a level and kind of protection to which they are entitled.

The participants also unanimously stated: "Our discussions have served to strengthen our commitment to undertaking and stimulating advocacy and action to meet the needs of millions of children whose plight demands protective measures. Our discussions have also served to highlight the fact that each and everyone bears a responsibility in this respect. These are common problems whose solution concerns us all. There can thus be no distinction between those who recommend and those to whom recommendations can be made."

The closing session was addressed by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, as well as the chairmen of various working groups who expressed their satisfaction at the results obtained and their deep appreciation and gratitude to His Royal Highness Crown Prince

Hassan for his active interest and participation in discussions relating to the problems of young people.

The recommendations of the symposium are to be considered by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues at its plenary session scheduled to be held in a fortnight at the headquarters of the International Court of Justice at the Hague.

It is expected that the international organisations concerned, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and voluntary organisations as well as governments facing problems discussed by the symposium, will formulate policies or take action in line with the suggestions and recommendations made in Amman.

## AFESD signs KD 6m loan agreement for irrigation project

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) will grant Jordan a loan of six million Kuwaiti dinars to help it carry out an irrigation project in the central Jordan Valley region, according to an agreement signed in Amman Monday.

The project entails extending irrigation pipes and water to 55,000 dunams of land in order to increase the total cultivable land by 33 per cent. It also entails irrigating an additional 5,000 dunams of Wadi Rajab and the central Jordan Valley regions to compensate for water which will be pumped to Amman and other areas for drinking purposes. The agreement also provides for conducting feasibility studies on developing Wadi Araba.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour and representatives of AFESD Wael Kanan and Jamal Shafiq.

## Zaben discusses postal cooperation with Saudi team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications Mohammad Al Zaben Monday received the visiting director general of postal services in Saudi Arabia Sheikh Sameer Banaja and the accompanying delegation. Dr. Zaben outlined the postal services in Jordan and mentioned the ministry's introduction of a system enabling students to send applications for Jordanian universities through 363 post offices located all over the country.

Sheikh Sameer hailed the postal services provided in Jordan and said that Saudi Arabia is working towards introducing sending applications for universities through post office. Sheikh Sameer also briefed the minister on the postal services in Saudi Arabia.

A joint meeting was held at the ministry Monday chaired by Sheikh Sameer and by the ministry's under-secretary Mansour Ibn Tariq, during which the two sides reviewed the existing Jordanian-Saudi postal cooperation and the future prospects for this cooperation. The two sides reaffirmed that continuing coordination between Jordan and Saudi Arabia is a necessary in view of the strong brotherly relations linking the two countries.

## Amman police apprehend gang of jewel burglars

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman police have apprehended a group of five thieves who stole JD 5,000 worth of jewels from a house in the Tla'a Al Ali district.

A police spokesman said that the gang had organised themselves as a unit specialising in breaking into and robbing homes. The group, aged between 20 and 23 years, admitted committing the robbery and said that they had organised a group for the purpose of burgling houses.

The five thieves met in front of Al Hussein Mosque in downtown Amman, they then took a taxi to Shmeisani until they reached the gardens where they started wandering around the area searching for dark houses. Having found an empty house, two of the group

broke in and stole some jewels and JD 160 in cash. The group proceeded to downtown Amman where they sold the stolen jewels.

When the owners of the house returned and found out that some articles had been stolen, they reported this to the police who located the stolen jewelry in a shop and identified the person who has sold the articles to the jeweller.

Captain Abdul Rahman Al Shara'a, Chief of Amman Police downtown said that the gang's members were subsequently arrested by the police. Captain Shara'a also said that investigations revealed that another thief, identified as A.M. Th, had stolen a video and television sets and was then arrested by Amman Criminal Police.

## Fahd's message seen as shift in Saudi stand

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A message of support from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) is viewed by the Palestinian leadership as "an important shift in the Saudi position on the Palestinian-Syrian rift" and are optimistic that it will "contribute to healing the Syrian-Palestinian rift."

In a message read out at the council Saturday, King Fahd expressed the full support of the kingdom to the legitimate leadership of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and pledged continued Saudi efforts for the success of the Palestine liberation movement.

Although the official Saudi stance has never been critical of the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, Palestinian officials confide that at times Saudi leaders "appeared to be influenced by the

Syrian position and reluctant to take a clear position that might have helped in changing the hostile Syrian stance towards Mr. Arafat."

A payment by Saudi Arabia of \$28 million in quarterly aid for the PLO last week was also seen as another sign of the shift in the Saudi position.

In a speech at the opening session of the PNC last Thursday, Mr. Arafat thanked Saudi Arabia for efforts the kingdom has exerted to improve relations between the PLO and Syria. But, according to Palestinian sources, there has always been a general feeling among the Palestinians that "the Saudis could have done more in influencing the Syrian position."

The sources explain that this general contention was based on a belief that Saudi Arabia had the political weight and power that could have enabled it to exert more pressure on the Syrian government to drop its demand for the ouster of Mr. Arafat and on

"several rather ambiguous stances" that the Saudi government adopted on several PLO issues over the last year.

They cite an apparent decline or at least "unwelcoming attitude" on the part of the Saudis to receive Mr. Arafat after his controversial visit to Cairo last December when he was on his way to North Yemen with a number of his supporters after being forced to leave north Lebanon by Syrian backed rebels and Syrians themselves.

The sources also contend that Saudi Arabia did not use to show much enthusiasm over convening the PNC and was supportive of the idea that all factions, including pro-Syrian ultraradical PLO groups, should attend the council.

There have been even claims that the Saudis were behind "the failure of Mr. Arafat to talk any of the Gulf countries — except Iraq — to host the PNC."

Palestinian circles here do not offer a comprehensive explanation over possible factors that could have prompted perceived shift in the Saudi stand, but believe that "the decisive stance by Fateh to call for a PNC meeting was one main reason that led the Saudis to reconsider their position."

The Saudis have apparently understood the significance of Fateh's step which, according to Fateh officials, was aimed at breaking a Syrian-imposed "state of

paralysis" and sought to take active, if not a leading, role in taking the Middle East peace process off the ground by moving swiftly to express support to Mr. Arafat.

If the calculations of the Fateh leadership proved to be right, Syria has lost a major source of support in its conflict with Mr. Arafat who, by convening the PNC, has apparently succeeded in taking away the initiative from Syria's hands. This explains partly at least the optimism and confidence which characterised statements by Fateh officials over the last week and reflected in changes which they have effected in the PNC regardless of Syrian anger and opposition.

## PNC guests air their observations

By Olga Mikhael  
Special to the Jordan Times



Dr. Urie Davis

AMMAN — Hundreds of world personalities, government representatives and politicians are attending the current meetings of the 17th PNC in Amman. Among the observers and guests are: Dr. Rashid Al Khalidi, a professor of politics at the American University of Beirut and a prominent Palestinian figure; Dr. Uri Davis, an Anti-Zionist Jewish journalist working in England who has been invited to the PNC as a guest of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat; Mr. Ilan Halevi, a Palestinian Jew, who is the head of press and information at the PLO office in Paris.

"Amman was the only Arab capital which was willing to help the PLO in a situation of great danger, and was the only site that the PNC was able to finally meet," Dr. Rashid Khalidi told the Jordan Times in an interview.

Jordan made the sacrifice of inviting the PNC meeting to Amman. This is particularly important because Jordan is a country with a large Palestinian population, it is the closest Arab country to Palestine and it is a country which is deeply involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. All these make the issue of holding the PNC in Amman rather significant," Dr. Khalidi said.

"The fact that Jordan has done what no other Arab country, even the stronger and more prosperous ones are willing to do in terms of hosting the PNC is very important, especially in view of pressures that can be exerted," he added.

Dr. Khalidi, who is attending the PNC meetings as an observer, stressed the point that the 17th session of the PNC would not adopt a major political initiative. "The accomplishments of the PNC meetings in Amman would focus on problems facing the PLO both internally and inter-Arab. That problem has been brought nearer to a solution by holding the session here in Amman," Dr. Khalidi explained.

"The problem of legitimacy has been laid to rest, problems of achieving a new dynamic sense of momentum have been partially solved by the mere fact that the session has been held and, finally, the Syrian attempt to prevent the

holding of the PNC and to use this prevention as means for forcing the PLO to follow its own line has been decisively defeated," Dr. Khalidi concluded.

Dr. Uri Davis, a personal guest of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at the meeting is attending as an observer and researcher. Dr. Davis describes himself as a Palestinian Jew, now residing in the United Kingdom and working as a journalist and he is well known for his involvement for many years in the struggle against "the Israeli policy, the Zionist perspective of Palestine, and the Zionist colonial practices as well as for defending the Palestinian rights under Israeli rule and occupation."

"The democratic proceedings of this council are prominent in both form and content and the pleasure is not merely observing as a guest the technicalities of the process. Rather, observing the pleasure of the people and the pride of the people in participating in the PNC as their supreme national institution," Dr. Davis told the Jordan Times.

Answering a question about the Israeli government's harassment of persons attending the PLO functions, Dr. Davis said "first of all, I am a Palestinian Jew. It is a fact that we have all been harassed by the Israeli government and my first serious experience in this connection was in 1965 when I was arrested and tried for my role in organising opposition to the confiscation of Arab lands, lands cultivated by Palestinian Arab villagers in Galilee."

Mr. Ilan Halevi, who describes himself as a Palestinian Jew, works in Paris for the PLO press and information office and replaced the late Issam Sartawi after his assassination in April 1983.

Mr. Halevi has written three books about the Palestinian question: Under Israel — Palestine in 1978, Jewish question: Tribe, Space and Law in 1981 and Israel From Terrorism to State Massacre.

Although Mr. Halevi was born in Paris he came back to Palestine in 1969 and lived there until 1978. Throughout his years of living "inside" he was active in the anti-Zionist movements and was arrested several times. "I started working with PLO research institution in Beirut and then gradually my work became more and more closely associated with the work of the PLO. But, it was only in 1982 and during the siege of Beirut that I was formally and officially integrated into the PLO structure," Mr. Halevi said.

"As an observer in the 17th session of the Palestine National Council, I would like to say that the amount of pressures that were exerted to prevent the convening of this council and the very fact that it took place by itself is a victory for the PLO," he said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### WFP to grant food supplies to schools

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Food Programme (WFP) is to grant Jordan \$6,994 million worth of food supplies for school children between 1985 and 1987 in accordance with an agreement signed here Monday. Under the agreement, the WFP will supply nearly 7,878 tonnes of food comprising flour, cheese, sugar, cocoa, canned meat and dried milk to the Ministry of Education which in turn will distribute it to 80,000 students in the elementary stage studying at 547 schools in rural regions of Jordan. The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour and the acting WFP representative in Jordan.

### Archaeology talk inaugurates lecture hall

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Department of Antiquities will inaugurate its new lecture hall at the Registration Centre Tuesday night with an illustrated lecture by Dr. Ghazi Bisheh on his latest season of work at Qasr Hallabat, the Umayyad complex in the eastern desert of Jordan. Besides clearance work and excavations, Dr. Bisheh has also investigated the ancient agricultural installations associated with Qasr Hallabat. The lecture is at 6:30 p.m. at the lecture hall of the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre, Jabal Amman.

### Local firm to build ACDIMA base

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) has signed a JD 1.25 million agreement with a local firm for constructing the permanent headquarters for ACDIMA. Work on the project, to be built in Sweifiyah area in Amman, will start within one month from the date of signing the agreement. The agreement was signed by the ACDIMA director general and by the director general of the executing company.

### Court sentences hashish dealers

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Azmi Mohammad Sami, Maher Al Tabari and Asad Fawad Haddad to six months in prison and fined each of them JD 50 for dealing in hashish. The military governor has endorsed the sentence.

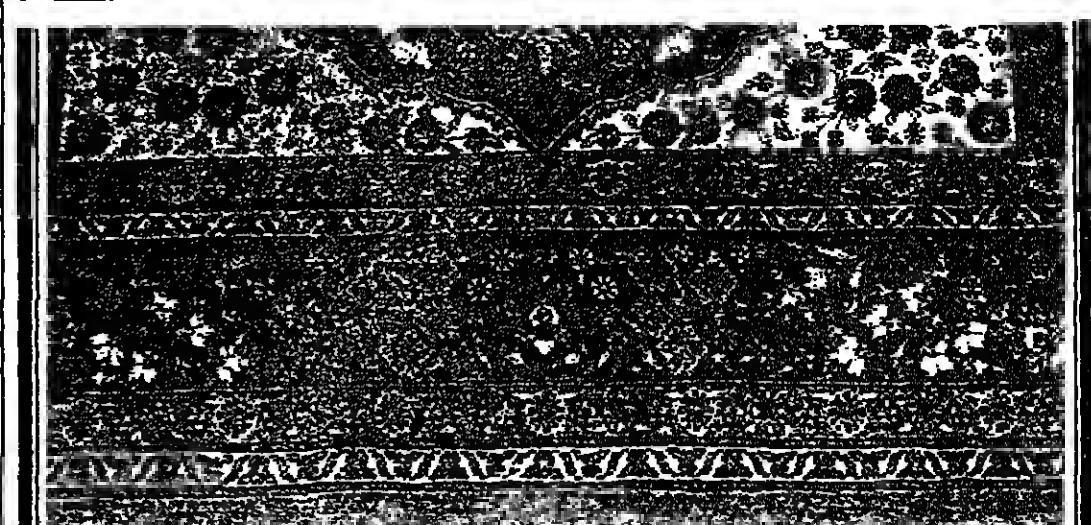
## Galilee movements denounce 'conspiracies against PLO'

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of the Al Nahda and Shabiba movements in occupied Galilee area have issued a statement in which they expressed their support for holding the 17th session of the PNC in Amman and described it as a blow to the enemies of the Palestinian revolution.

The statement said that convening the PNC has foiled all the American and Zionist plans to undermine the Palestinian movement's institutions and precluded the split of the PLO by those who shed Tripoli and Nahr Al Bared and Baddawi camps and who shed Palestinian blood.

"The PLO has exhausted all means to preserve the unity of the PLO, but the dissidents who shed Tripoli and the Palestinian camps around it and who shed Palestinian blood have decided to follow their conspiratory approach, thus abandoning the independence of the Palestinian decision," the statement said.

It added that dissidents have



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## POSTPONEMENT OF THE TURKISH CHARITABLE BAZAAR

The Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA) announces that the opening date of the Turkish charitable bazaar, which was scheduled to take place at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Nov. 28, has been postponed until the same time on Sunday Dec. 2 at Al Hussein Youth City Hall as the hall will be occupied on the first set date. The bazaar runs until Monday Dec. 3 from 11:00-1:00 p.m. and 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

The Jordanian Veterinary Medical Association in cooperation with Intervet International (Holland) announce that:

Dr. VAN DIJK  
will present a scientific lecture under the title of:  
Control of Newcastle disease in poultry

at the association building in Shmeisani on Tuesday,  
27 Nov. 1984, at 5 p.m.



# The meaning of the cardboard carton

By Rami G. Khouri

OF ALL the things I have heard and seen during the meetings here this week of the Palestine National Council (PNC), none has impressed me as much as the cardboard carton.

Which cardboard carton, you ask? The one used as a ballot box by the PNC delegates during their vote for the new speaker of the council. Did you notice it? It was a cardboard carton used to ship bottles of Jordanian mineral water (students of symbolism take note: Jordanian mineral water, reflecting, no doubt, the special and historic relationship that binds the people of Jordan and Palestine.)

The top flaps of the carton had been folded back to the outside, thereby largely covering the name of the mineral water printed in big blue letters on the outside of the box. The political significance of the matter was overwhelming, to be sure, but it would have been rather clumsy of me to have sauntered up to the stage, while the voting was taking place, to peel back the top flaps to see the name of the mineral water on the cardboard carton. Surely, I could have said to the deputy speaker who was presiding over the voting: "Sir, don't mind me. While you folks are rearranging the political map of the Middle East, I just want to peek under these darned flaps to see what kind of

mineral water box you have chosen to deposit your votes in."

So I gazed, peered, squinted and finally deciphered the name of the mineral water from the bottoms of the letters that protruded slightly from beneath the flaps. This was a carton of Safa mineral water. A Trans-Jordanian, one hundred per cent East Bank, certified Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan mineral water. How interesting, I thought, that the 17th session of the Palestine National Council would choose a carton of Jordanian mineral water as a receptacle for the Palestinian democratic process exemplified by the secret ballot for the new speaker. They could have chosen a Lebanese mineral water, such as Sohat, to make a gesture towards solidarity with the Lebanese national movement. Or, they could have chosen a Syrian mineral water, such as Bugein, to send a message to Damascus and the Damascus-based Palestinian factions that the doors to reconciliation — well, maybe not the doors, but at least the top flaps to reconciliation — are still open.

I could not at first fully grasp the significance of the Safa water carton. Then I saw that there were also some bottles of Safa water being consumed by the Palestinian members of the council, even, by God, by the members of the executive

committee of the PLO. Did this mean, I wondered, that long and deep Jordanian-Palestinian demographic, political, national and economic ties were now to be consummated by a common alimentary experience? I stored that question in the back of my mind, to bring out at a suitable occasion, perhaps at a press conference with leading PLO officials.

My thoughts, however, remained on the cardboard carton. Did the highest decision-making body of the Palestinian revolution and national resistance not have a suitably serious ballot box, perhaps made of olive wood, commensurate with the importance and gravity of the democratic process inherent in a secret ballot? Or was the original box in Damascus, with Khaled Fahoum, the former PNC speaker who was relieved of his post by a majority vote of this gathering? Or did someone simply forget it in Tunis? (After all, I thought, anybody who could forget several hundred local, Arab, Palestinian and international journalists in the parking lot outside the PNC meeting hall during the opening session was surely capable of forgetting to bring along the PNC's official ballot box.)

The symbolism of the cardboard mineral water box has remained with me throughout

the meetings of the PNC. How was one to relate to the experience? Was the cardboard box a symbol of Palestinian democratic impulses, or an affirmation of a casual instinct that verges on incompetence? Was the cardboard box our equivalent of Radical Chic? Who was I to judge those in the Palestinian national movement who had struggled, fought, suffered and died for so many decades, in the quest of Palestinian rights to national self-determination, statehood and dignity?

It would become more clear, as the meetings proceeded, that this was, on the whole, a process that was procedurally democratic and politically sensitive. Several times, the Leader and Chairman himself was overruled by the speaker of the council. At other times, leading members of the PLO asked individual speakers to refrain from harsh personal attacks against some of the leaders of the Palestinian groups that had boycotted the meetings. When, on some occasions, the leadership or speaker's chair seemed keen to rush through a topic of discussion and put it to a vote, council members objected vehemently, and with great vigour waved their copies of the little blue book of the PNC rules. And did you notice how, after the votes had been counted, one of the secretaries

of the speaker's office held the empty box high in the air and waved it for all to see. Ostensibly, he was showing the PNC members that all the votes had been counted. Those who have countries wave flags. Those who are fighting for a country wave rifles. Those who are fighting for a democratic and humane country wave rifles and boxes.

Surely, I concluded, one may fault the PNC for having a less than stunning grasp of procedural decorum. The members obviously did not read Robert's Rules of Order each night before drifting off to sleep, to dream of homelands regained and nations reconstituted. But perhaps there is something more significant behind all of this. Perhaps, I thought, the cardboard box was not an embarrassing symbol of our disarray, but rather an appropriate and moving symbol of the principles that have guided the Palestinian nation for so many difficult decades. I remembered that two of the greatest military powers on earth, the United States of America and the Republic of France, were defeated in Vietnam by the fierce will of a people whose fighters rode bicycles. The Vietnamese finally triumphed by the force of their faith in themselves and their bicycles. Would the Palestinian revolution finally triumph by a similar combination of political determination and cardboard mineral water boxes?

Here we are, I thought, about one hundred years after the concept of political Zionism was born in Europe, putting little pieces of paper into a cardboard mineral water box. It's difficult to be significantly democratic and republican when you don't have your people in one country, where your institutions could evolve models of irreproachable procedural punctilio.

So, we do the best we can, sacrificing perhaps on the altar of the boxes, to maintain the substance of a participatory and representative form of decision-making. This remains the single most precious attribute of the Palestinian national movement, and it needs to come out of this week's meetings intact and strengthened. Our political case is based primarily on a sense of national justice and political egalitarianism. The fact that we have to carry these around with us from country to country in a cardboard box makes them all the more important, and fragile. If they should ever be sacrificed to the slingshotting of the selfish and the impatient, we would look pretty silly holding only an empty cardboard box.

## Fateh holds the cards

A CLEARER picture was emerging yesterday of the direction the PNC will take in setting political guidelines for the new PLO leadership. The manifesto of the 17th session is not likely to be different from that of the Algiers PNC last year, except in one or two respects.

While the PLO will avoid a direct address of the King's proposal for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative in the next several months, the PNC is expected to reaffirm its commitment to the concept of establishing confederate ties with Jordan at the moment a Palestinian state is born in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In between, and as if to satisfy a new political requirement or need, the Palestinian leadership may also define a new Jordan-PLO vision of future joint moves on the Middle East.

Nobody knows for sure yet what this PNC formula for governing Jordanian-Palestinian relations is going to be. But it is obvious that the Fateh leaders will reserve for themselves the right to determine its major aspects in the next couple of days.

Chairman Arafat and his colleagues in the Fateh Central Committee have several constraints to consider in deciding upon an option with Jordan. Foremost among these considerations are PLO relations with Syria, the independent Palestinian groups, the Soviet Union and Egypt. Saudi Arabia should also be an important factor for them; but we have seen already that King Fahd gave Mr. Arafat a strong indication of his support in the two messages he sent him since the opening of the PNC last Thursday.

Evidently neither the PLO chairman nor any of the Fateh leaders wants to close all the doors to reconciliation with Syria, and all want to leave the door wide open for the independents to come back to the PLO, although the price for a reunion with the "democratic alliance" varies from here to there. Relations with Egypt are by necessity a function of rapprochement with or estrangement from Jordan, Syria and the independents in the PLO.

A senior Fateh official was forthcoming yesterday when he said that implicit threats to his group by the "democratic alliance" on either of the above questions were not really that serious. Fateh is concerned of course that the independents take in their lot with the Syrians if Mr. Arafat chooses to disassociate himself completely from Syrian policies on the Palestinian problem and other issues. But the organisation knows only too well that it is not exactly easy for Habbash and Hawatmeh to do this. The two know that going to Canossa now is of no help. Hence the confidence on the Fateh side, and it is exactly the same confidence that led Chairman Arafat to call the PNC for here.

In all of this, there is an opening to make the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship work, and not necessarily at the expense of any Arab country, Jordan, to be sure, is also against excluding any sincere Arab effort in the direction of solving our problems. It is only that political cards must be played when they are in one's hands and without any hesitation if the cause is right and the conviction is strong.

In the King's proposal for a Jordanian-Palestinian framework there is the element of 242 that the Palestinians generally do not like. But it is more than one element that the King has offered the PLO. It is a package that could work and that offers a realistic approach — without infringement on any of the basic Palestinian rights nor on the right of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people as a whole.

Rhetoric aside, the issue is as simple as that. Time is of the essence. Let us not waste it collecting more hollow slogans and more blank political cards.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Joint formula is needed

KING HUSSEIN'S speech at the Palestine National Council on Thursday was clear for all. It did not bring forward a new initiative for solving the Middle East problem, but it put forth a suggestion for a joint Palestinian-Jordanian formula on future action which will be backed by other Arab countries in line with the Arab summit conference of Rabat and its resolutions.

The King made it clear that both sides have to reach a formula which will be accepted by the world at large after being advocated by the concerned parties and the Arab countries. The King spoke about a joint formula and a course of action to end the current deadlock in the crisis.

Jordan still supports, and is firmly committed to the 1974 Rabat summit resolution which states that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Our enemies explain this as a shirking of legal responsibility by Jordan of its commitment to the West Bank. We should both fight hard against campaigns directed against this country and its responsibilities, and also should foil Zionist plans which enjoy the support of certain nations that have abandoned all their moral, international and humanitarian responsibilities.

Jordan and the PLO should try to benefit from U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which guarantees the return of Arab land to their owners. Rejecting this resolution on our part means rejecting international consensus. We must support U.N. resolutions which consider the West Bank as an occupied land that must be returned to its owners.

### Al Dustour: Iran should be urged

KING HUSSEIN'S call to Arab and Islamic countries to exert all possible efforts to stop the Iranian regime from killing Iraqi prisoners of war in their camps inside Iran is an appeal to humanity to end this hideous crime. The call came following reports by the International Red Cross about the atrocities of the Iranians and their slaughtering of Iraqi prisoners in a systematic manner. In fact, the appeal goes but to all human beings and humanitarian institutions that care for the well being of people.

The disclosure by the Red Cross of Iran's crimes should serve as an incentive to all human beings to act now and stop the killing of these helpless men. The Iranians are committing their crimes in defiance of all international laws and religious and humanitarian principles and also in violation of the Geneva Convention about the treatment of prisoners of war. In fact, all nations should act now to stop this Gulf war from continuing any further so that the two sides can discuss their disputes in peace and end the ordeal of prisoners of war. Perhaps the Arab countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council whose leaders are due to start meetings in Kuwait Tuesday will contribute towards ending this war and the sufferings of the people on both sides. King Hussein's call was an alarm bell to the Arab and Islamic worlds awaiting joint, serious efforts to bring peace to the troubled Gulf region.

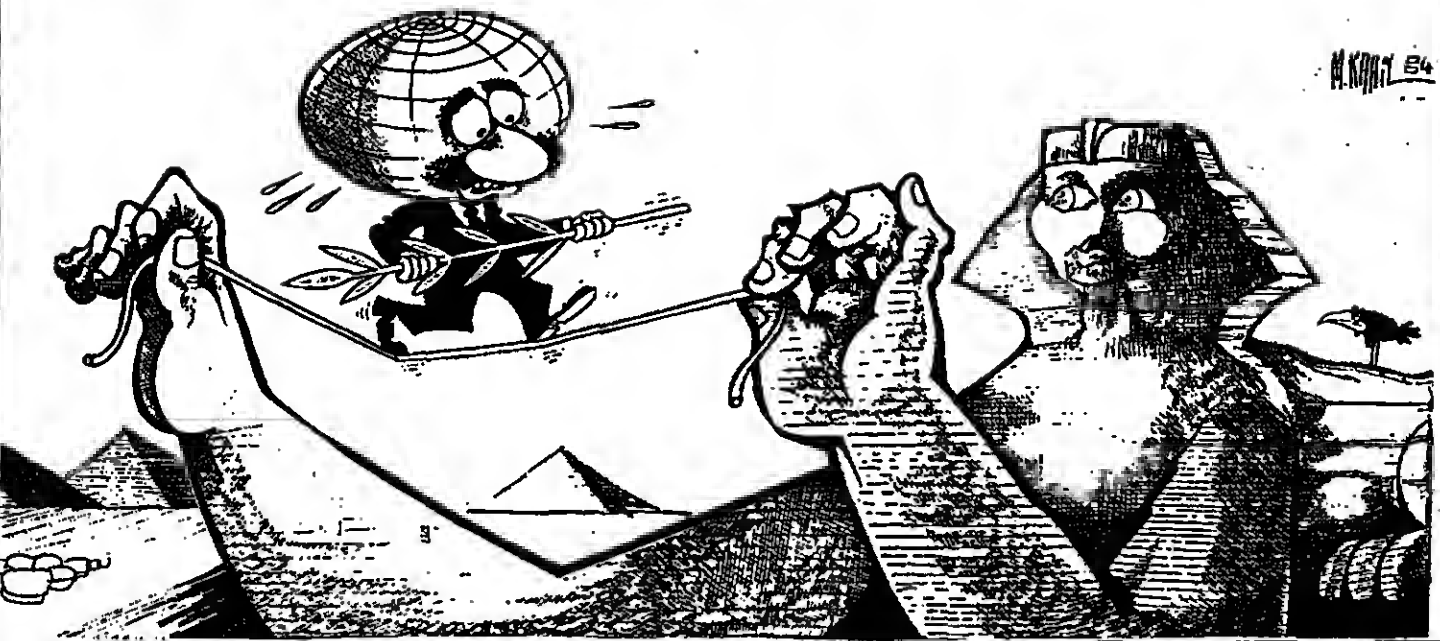
### Sawt Al Shaab: PNC needs concrete action

THE PALESTINE National Council has succeeded in convening in Amman following months of squabbling over issues that delayed the meeting for so long. There will be no room for now on for anybody to east doubts about the meeting, nor will be any room for instigators to cause dissension among its members.

The convening of the meeting in Amman paved the way for the Palestinian people to have their voice heard by the world. But this is not enough, nor are posters, slogans and wishes. These cannot do the work which should be done. There must be an armed struggle, but this struggle requires political action to go with it, especially in the Western world.

The ability to manoeuvre politically is no less important than doing it militarily, and for this to happen, the PLO leaders should exploit whatever courses available to them to achieve the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

Arab News



## Svetlana: I was a play thing of the CIA

By Martin Walker

MOSCOW — JOSEPH STALIN's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, emerged from two weeks of seclusion in Moscow last week to give a carefully controlled press conference at which her father's name was never mentioned.

Svetlana explained her 17-year sojourn in the West and excused her public and repeated criticisms of life in the Soviet Union with a single sentence: "I became a plaything of the CIA, who even told me that I should write."

She told specially invited foreign correspondents: "A sense of profound guilt never left me, all these years. No matter how I tried to live like an American, nothing ever came of it."

"To continue idealising America today would be quite impossible. Having found myself in the so-called free world, I was not free for one single day."

She went on: "I have been welcomed home like the prodigal son in the Bible. I could not stand being parted with my family and the decision to return has helped me in the end of the sense of guilt that tormented me all these years. I am happy now. I have come home."

Looking younger than her age of 58, she read her statement carefully in Russian from a prepared

text. She said that in the West she had not been allowed to travel freely. "I wanted to live in a small, peace-loving country without the H-bomb, such as Sweden or Switzerland or India, but they let it be known that I could only go to England."

Asked how she had been manipulated in the West, and by whom, she replied: "Even before I reached America I had to sign a contract in Switzerland with my lawyers, by which I gave up my rights as author of my book. It is a powerful American law firm, with close links to the State Department, and I was in their hands. I had to do what that firm said."

"My book was a collective creative production. Only the chapter on India was truly mine. In other chapters I was prompted, asked and told the what and the why. In the end I wrote an ironic note of thanks for those who had 'helped' me, but some were not mentioned because it is customary not to mention those connected with intelligence."

Svetlana said there had been three key moments in her decision to return home: the first was in New York three years ago when, after seeing the Russian film Oblomov, she was on the verge of going to the Russian consulate to arrange her return. The second was in Britain in June during the

D-Day anniversary celebrations.

She told journalists: "It was just impossible to imagine how they could ignore the 20 million Soviet soldiers who sacrificed their lives. It was the unbelievable lack of fairness that made me understand where I really belong."

"The last straw was in September, when the decision was finally made. I had not been able to contact my family while I lived in America, and, in September, while living in Britain, I learned that my son, Josif, was ill in Moscow, and my elder daughter was far away in Kamehakea. I could not stand the parting from my family."

"I am a religious person. I was baptised in Moscow in 1962, although membership of a church and formal rituals mean little to me. But without these profound religious feelings I would not have had the terrible sense of guilt that brought me home."

As the press conference stretched into its second hour, Svetlana began to look strained and almost irritable. Friends here have been talking of family difficulties, inevitable after so long a separation, and have said that she was subject to bouts of depression.

She said that friends in the West "knew how fast my idealism about America evaporated".

She then spoke of the West's

"pseudo-democracy" saying that her 13-year-old daughter, Olga, would never face unemployment here in Moscow.

Because of the strict confines of the controlled press conference, it was impossible for correspondents to pin her down. She did not specifically retract, for example, the criticisms of Russia she made on a BBC TV interview with Malcolm Muggeridge, simply side-stepping the issue by saying that she wanted to talk about religion but that he was a political man with more interest in politics.

"Most of you in this room are men," she snapped at one point. "You are interested in political matters. I am not. They are interested in my families, in their children."

She suggested at another point that her disappointment with the West stemmed from her failure to make a career: "My purpose was not to get rich but to live with writers, painters, intellectuals, to study photography and languages, but nothing came of it."

Her daughter, she said, was her own affair as legal guardian. Her husband was "a weak man... he married me because he was told to do so, and because he overestimated my wealth," she said, smiling openly — The Guardian.

## Ethiopia is not alone, other famines approach

By Christopher Hanson

Reuters

LONDON — Horrifying accounts of starvation in Ethiopia have captured the attention of the West, but relief agencies say famine has also struck, or is about to strike, in nine other nations in Africa and Asia.

More than six million Ethiopians are suffering from drought-induced food shortages. Relief agencies, which have received millions of dollars in contributions over the past few weeks, say the situation remains extremely serious.

But drought has hit 26 other African nations and has brought famine to Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Mozambique. U.N. officials said last week, relief agencies fear Sudan and Angola are next.

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) called last week for a massive aid effort by the developed world to stem their continent's "alarming economic and social deterioration."

Washington has increased aid to Mali, Mozambique, and Kenya as well as Ethiopia and has called for a conference to improve coordination of aid to Africa. Several West European nations also increased aid and the 10-nation European Community has been holding talks on how better to coordinate its own relief.

In Asia, famine is looming in two countries — Kampuchea and Bangladesh — where crops have been destroyed by flooding, say relief agencies in Britain, citing reports from their workers in those nations. Kampuchea has appealed for emergency food aid to counter threatened starvation in 1985.

Drought and flooding have seriously damaged this year's rice harvest, the Kampuchean News Agency SPK said last week. The crop will not make up for a shortage caused by four typhoons in 1983.

Kampuchea's six to seven million inhabitants face severe hunger, but the world response has been negligible, the British charity OXFAM says. The West has been loath to aid the Hanoi-backed

government, which has also had little Soviet aid, according to Western diplomats.

Bangladesh says it is conquering a famine threat caused by flooding of the sort which brought starvation 10 years ago. But an OXFAM spokesman predicted that starvation would spread to poor food distribution.

Indonesia said last week it had rushed food aid to its remote Kuning district where famine has hit several thousand.

The continent suffering most, however, is Africa. The same drought which has caused thousands of deaths from starvation in Ethiopia is afflicting an estimated one million in neighbouring Sudan. Relief officials estimate that by next March there will be a food shortfall of one to 1.3 million tonnes — greater, they say, than that facing Ethiopia.

An entire Sudanese nomadic tribe, the Beja — some 750,000 people — may face extinction, and Sudanese are fleeing parched western regions for other areas, they say. Meanwhile, drought and civil war have driven many refugees from Chad into Sudan.

U.N. officials say 42,000 Chadians have entered Sudan, but OXFAM places the figure much higher and says 45,000 have arrived in the Sudanese town of El Geniena alone. An estimated half million Ethiopian refugees are already in Sudan.

Relief officials fear the refugees will overtax Sudan's ability to cope with food shortages and that many will die.

In Chad itself, U.N. officials say, 1.5 million are afflicted by drought, several thousand have died, and 200,000 have fled from rural areas to towns seeking food and water.

In Mali, northwest Africa, over one million are suffering from the drought, and there has been an outbreak of cholera, which has been carried south into Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) by nomads seeking food, OXFAM says.

Saudi Arabia said last week it was sending 50 tonnes of medical supplies to help combat the disease.

## LETTERS

### Necessary precautions

To the Editor:

IN REFERENCE to Mr. Samih Ibrahim's letter on security arrangements during the holding of the Palestine National Council (PNC) meetings (Jordan Times, Nov. 22-23, 1984), I agree with Mr. Ibrahim that security precautions in Amman have been tight and that the job has been a huge undertaking for all involved.

I think the general public will never know to what extent these people (security forces) work to keep us safe in our beds, and of course that is how it should be.

Yes, there will be inconvenience; how could there not be? Television and newspapers talked about road closures and explained different routes. People living in areas where roads are closed knew in advance and, presumably, have checked out alternative routes.

How on earth could any motorist have to take a detour of over 13 kilometres or head in the wrong direction for over 20 kilometres in a town the size of Amman? This completely intrigues me.

As for anyone much bothered by the arrangements, I wish I thought better and be proud that our country can boast an excellent security force. Jordan, otherwise, would not have agreed to hold the PNC in Amman.

J. Ibrahim



# Israel always ready to make war for water gains

Israel, and the Zionist establishment before that, have invariably pursued aggressive policies towards regional waters and their manipulation. Following the recent part of an article published by Leslie C. Schreiner in *The New York Times*, a publication by New York-based Americans for Middle East Understanding. The first part of the article was published in yesterday's *Jordan Times*.

This revised version of the plan is still unacceptable to the Arabs in both technical and political grounds. Its purpose, they felt, was to settle the refugees permanently, thereby abandoning Palestinian rights. It was also clear that when Israel trapped a vast quantity of Jordan River water for use outside the basin, the result would be a considerable and unacceptable salinisation. Israel made no pretence of hiding its goal to heavily populate the Negev region, viewed as a security threat by the Arabs. In addition, the problem of international supervision was never resolved (the Arabs wanted it, Israel didn't), and no mutual agreement on water allocations was ever reached.

In 1960, the Technical Commission of the Arab League finally formalised plans to develop the Jordan River tributaries for the mutual benefit of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, although the project was not implemented for another four years. Construction began in 1964 for a dam on the Yarmouk and for diversion of the headwaters of the Jordan; this was considered vital for Jordan to replace the water it would lose when Israel began pumping water to the Negev, and it did not constitute a serious threat to the "lifeline" of Israel, whose leaders referred to this action as a "token diversion".

Nonetheless, the Israeli Army soon began firing upon the Syrians, and the Israeli press argued that the dispute over the Jordan River provided an opportunity for war at a propitious time for Israel.

When war did in fact break out in 1967, the water issue was among major Israeli concerns in launching a "preemptive attack". The action put an end to the Arab diversion; Israeli tanks and troops, stationed along the proposed route, effectively completed Israel's encirclement of the headwaters of the Upper Jordan.

Concurrently, seizure of Syria's Golan Heights assured Israel protection of the Lake Tiberias pumping works and enabled Israel to preclude any Syrian or unilateral Arab effort to divert the Upper Jordan back to Arab territory or to develop the Yarmouk.

The war also brought West Bank land and water under full Israeli control. While this region has more abundant water resources than most of the surrounding area, much of it is dependent upon rainfall. This includes about 600 sq. km. of ground water; the West Bank's most important source. The two aquifers arising there supply almost all the groundwater for northern and central Israel. Indeed, one-third of Israel's pre-1967 water consumption of 1.6 billion cubic meters originated in the West Bank and was tapped by drilling on the Israeli side of the Armistice Line.

The Israelis used this water for irrigation as well as to counteract their overpumping of coastal aquifers.

Smooth functioning of the West Bank well system is the linchpin in the overall Israeli water balance. In order to "ensure" control of well-water supply, Israel must control the aquifers in their entirety. Control of the West Bank per se is therefore imperative.

Current Israeli planning considers the West Bank to be a "water reservoir of Israel," and accordingly, Israel uses 75 per cent of those

water resources it "shares" with the Palestinian majority on the West Bank with only 25 per cent of the waters originating on their land.

Israeli propaganda, to justify appropriation of West Bank water resources, claims that the regional inhabitants have inefficiently utilized resources and that area irrigation systems are wasteful, thereby necessitating "efficient administration and conservation in irrigation systems in Judea and Samaria". However, only five per cent of West Bank land is irrigated by the Palestinians, whose per capita water consumption (including that for agriculture) is only 23 per cent that among Israelis. The disparity in per capita domestic water consumption is even greater, as Table 2 demonstrates.

Palestinian water consumption is limited by a quota based upon the average consumption recorded in 1967 and 1968; the total annual water ration for Palestinian agriculture is fixed at a level 20 per cent higher than that recorded in 1967. Yet, because the years 1967-68 experienced less-than-average rainfall, and because Palestinian farmers were recovering from damage suffered in the 1967 war, consumption during the two years on which the quota is based was far below normal.

The official Israeli explanation for refusing to increase Palestinian water consumption is that "increased productivity can take place by improved on-farm irrigation methods." Yet, all innovations or improvements must be approved by the military government, and most requests — including replacement of pumping works with new ones or open pipe canal systems with closed pipes, which actually conserve water — are denied. Terracing or other Palestinian land development which might impede the surface flow of water to Israel is also forbidden.

Meanwhile, as of August 1982, the Israelis had drilled at least 30 new wells in the West Bank — deep bore holes from 300 to 600 meters deep which pump an estimated 15-17 mcm annually — for use solely by the Israelis; the Beit Eba well near Nablus was supposedly drilled to serve Arab villages in the vicinity, but in the end, it almost exclusively served Israeli settlements. No Palestinian since 1967 has received permission to drill a new irrigation well, and less than 10 new wells for domestic Palestinian consumption have been authorised. Israeli wells are deeper and thus pump more water than Arab wells; in 1977-78, 17 Israeli wells in the Jordan Valley pumped 14.1 mcm, while 106 Arab wells pumped only 12.1 mcm.

Many of the Israeli wells have been drilled close to Arab wells and springs, with devastating results. Output and water levels in the Arab wells have declined — precisely as Israeli hydrological studies conducted beforehand predicted — and their salinity content has increased. Twelve Arab wells have dried up since the 1967 occupation.

By 1976, Israel was using somewhere between 95 and 98 per cent of its proven renewable water supply. Some sources indicate that by 1979, it was using more than 100 per cent, and others calculate that an additional 400-500 mcm

will be required by 1990 for domestic consumption alone, and this to support only the increase in Israel's urban population. Israel must significantly increase its total water consumption if it is not to suffer a declining standard of living and reduction in economic growth. The additional quantities of water necessary to sustain increasing growth within Israel and a continuation of the settlement policy can come from only a limited number of sources — resources in southern Lebanon already discussed, as well as nearby quantities of water not yet appropriated by Israel, including the Nile River in Egypt and the Yarmouk River which flows through Jordan.

Access to the Nile would increase Israeli agricultural production 18 times over, and has not been considered far-fetched by Israeli planners. Reviving Herzl's scheme of some 70 years earlier,

serves as the major water source for the eastern side of the Jordan Valley. The East Ghor Canal, built with U.S. financial and technical assistance over a seven-year period beginning in 1959, carries Yarmouk water through the valley to irrigate Jordanian crops. The major problem encountered since the canal first began operating in 1962 is the silt which accumulates at the mouth of the feeder tunnel connecting the river to the canal. However, the river forms the post-1967 Armistice Line between Jordan and Israeli-occupied territory, and for more than five years after the war, Jordanian water authorities, who had controlled the problem through periodic maintenance until 1967, were not admitted to the demilitarised zone in order to service the river.

By 1976, the flow of water into the East Ghor Canal was seriously impeded by the accumulation of

Table II  
Water Consumption in the West Bank and Israel

(in cubic meters)	West Bank*	Israel**
Per capita consumption	124	537
Domestic purposes only	13	86

\*Hisham Awartani, *Water Resources and Policies*, Nablus: An-Najjah National University, 1975, p.3 (Arabic)

\*\* Kidma: *The Israeli Journal of Development*, No. 10, 1977, p. 4.

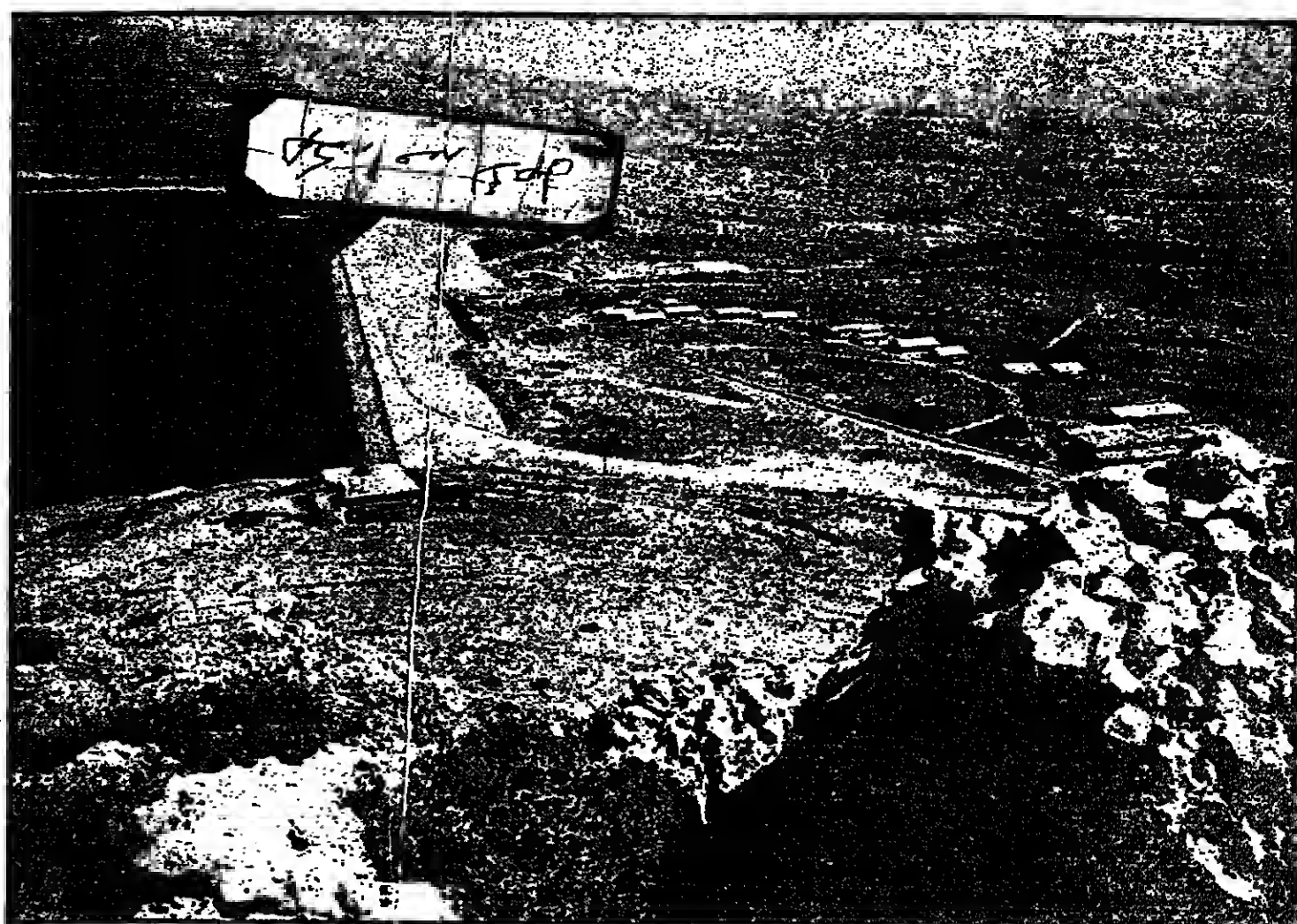
Tahal engineer Elisha Kelly in 1974 devised a plan which envisioned transporting Nile water some 220 kilometres under the Suez Canal, across Sinai in a concrete aqueduct to Khan Younis in Gaza, and from there across the Negev towards Beersheba. In September 1978, the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* wrote that this proposal was being considered seriously.

Fourteen months later, on Nov. 28, 1979, Egyptian President Sadat gave the green light for building a "peace canal" to irrigate half-a-million feddans (a feddan is a unit of area equal to 1,038 acres) in the Sinai with water from the Nile. Sadat also ordered a complete study for possibly bringing Nile water to Jerusalem to serve pilgrims to the holy places. Meanwhile, in Israel, the press discussed the possible construction of a canal to transport water from the Nile to the Negev where it would merge with the National Water Carrier.

These negotiations were not well known in the Arab World until the relevant correspondence between Sadat and Begin was published in the Egyptian press. This correspondence centered around Begin's unwillingness to compromise on Jerusalem, even for the promise of water for the Negev. Considerable opposition to the proposal on legal, economic and political grounds was generated in Egypt; most importantly, it was noted that Egypt would face a water shortage of 200 billion cubic meters by the year 2000 if it continues with land reclamation policies and other efforts to feed the country's proliferating population.

For the moment, however, Israel is concentrating upon rivers closer to home, such as the Yarmouk. Since Israel's diversion of the Jordan River, the Yarmouk

silt, American mediation that year and again in July of the drought year 1979 enabled Jordanian authorities to remove the rocks that had collected around the silt island — though not the silt itself — without Israeli intervention. A few days after the 1979 maintenance effort, according to well-informed local sources, the Israelis slipped down to the river at night and replaced the rocks in such a way as to increase the flow of water bypassing the East Ghor Canal feeder tunnel (and therefore flowing into Israeli territory). Both armies mobilised



The Litani Dam at Karoun, at the southern end of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, in 1967 (U.N. photo)

along the Armistice Line, and a military confrontation was only narrowly averted.

Among the provisions of the 1954 Revised Unified Plan discussed earlier, Israel was to receive 25 mcm of Yarmouk water to irrigate the small amount of Israeli land located in the Yarmouk Triangle. This amount was to flow in Israel primarily during the summer, regulated by a dam to be built upstream at Maqarin. In 1978, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$150 million for building the Maqarin Dam, contingent upon a regional settlement to the water dispute. By the time blueprints for the dam were completed in 1980, the U.S. had already invested \$20 million in

the project and West Germany another \$5 million. Contract bidding was scheduled to open in February 1981.

At this point, a U.S. mission led by senior State Department official Philip Habib visited the region in an attempt to conclude a water-sharing arrangement by persuading the Jordanians to accept Israeli demands for much more Yarmouk water than the amount to which Israel had previously agreed. This included 25-40 mcm within the Yarmouk Triangle and an additional quantity for use on the West Bank. (The Israeli press quoted 140 mcm for the latter purpose, but this figure has never been offi-

cially confirmed).

The Habib-led discussions failed to produce a solution to disputes over Yarmouk waters. In the meantime, the Israelis continue to pump an unauthorised 100 mcm of Yarmouk water into Lake Tiberias, and from there it is pumped up to Jewish settlements in the Golan Heights as well as into the National Water Carrier. Since 1983, Israel has refused to participate in the Mixed Armistice Commission, the only legitimised means by which communication with Jordan on this issue was previously possible.

According to a recent article by Ya'acov Friedler in the *Jerusalem*

Post, Israel plans to draw 60-70 mcm annually from the Yarmouk.

Quoting remarks made by Israeli Water Commissioner Zerah Yishai at the 12th Annual Convention of the Agricultural Engineering Association, Friedler reports that this will become possible within the next 18 months, when a fourth \$20 million pumping unit necessary to accommodate the increased water will be installed at Tabaha on the northwest shore of Lake Tiberias.

According to Yishai, water will be removed from Lake Tiberias to make room for the Yarmouk water and injected into the over-exploited coastal aquifers

## PNC speakers denounce Syrian interference

(Continued from page 2)

bing." He attacked Syria for sponsoring the rebellion within the PLO and for driving the organisation's forces out of Lebanon.

Again, he asked: "Do we fight just for the sake of fighting or do we fight to achieve a political strength through which we can bargain?"

"Our differences with Syria are based on whether we should have our independent Palestinian state or not and on whether the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," Mr. Khalaf said.

He called on Syria to commit itself to Arab summit resolutions, endorsed by all Arab countries and not to interfere in internal Palestinian affairs.

Fateh Central Committee member Hani Al Hassan in his speech said that the year 1985 will be the year "when the world will be giving birth to new policies and initiatives." He said U.S.-Soviet dialogue "will start again and it is high time for us to put our house in

order."

He said: "The PLO has come a long way and covered a long distance. The year 1985 should be the year when we can cross the last 10 metres in our long journey."

Commenting on the PLO's relations with Jordan, Mr. Hassan said: "We are still in the stage of formulating a political settlement among us. We and Jordan still have our differences, but through these differences we will eventually see eye to eye on our problem."

A Libyan exile, Mohammad Youssef Maghiche, also made a speech accusing Colonel Muammar Qadhafi of backing the anti-Arafat rebellion to complete Israel's goal of driving the PLO out of Lebanon.

However, several leading PLO figures, though criticising the role of Syria, called for efforts to restore normal ties with Syria.

"Soon after we end this council meeting, we will ask for a renewal of dialogue with Syria," said Hayel Abdul Hamid, a leading member of Fateh.

Mahmoud Abbas, a delegate to the PNC, urged all Arab countries to open their doors to help the PLO to step up its armed struggle. "The armed struggle is a necessity. The revolution has always supported this," he said. "Now what is needed is that the states with borders with Israel to open up these frontiers for our commando operations."

Prolonged applause and cheers followed the statement.

Abbas, a leader of the radical Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), who ignored the Syrian-based group's boycott of the council meeting, also supported King Hussein's call for a "united Palestinian-Jordanian peace initiative." "As the King said, the door to liberating our land is from Jordan and that is why we are bound by the same destiny," he said.

In the morning session several members gave speeches dealing with the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship and Palestinian-Syrian relations as well as political initiatives and the future relations

between the PLO and Egypt. Also covered in the speeches were the Fes Summit resolutions, the attitudes of factions that boycotted the PNC in Amman.

At the outset of the morning meeting, PNC speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeb read out cables which voiced support for the PNC. These came from detainees in Ansar camp in southern Lebanon who expressed their full support for the legitimate leadership of the PLO, and also from refugee camp residents in Jordan and Muslim youths in Jerusalem.

The PNC received a message from the Lebanese resistance forces in southern Lebanon expressing their support for the council's session and wishing it success. The council's meeting is bound to give further impetus to the struggle of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the cable said.

The PNC meanwhile sent cables to Elias Shoufani, Samir Ghossein, Khaled Abdul Majid and Samih Abu Kweik informing them of demands by PNC members for

their expulsion as council members. The cables said that the PNC members have urged the council to drop the membership of these four members unless they attend the Amman meeting within 48 hours. So far the PNC has sent similar cables to seven members. The other three being Ahmad Jibril, Fadel Shour and Riad Sa'd. The PNC's bylaws stipulate that a member is warned that his membership will be dropped if one fifth of the members present such a motion. (See story on page 3)

Speakers at Monday's morning session stressed the importance of bolstering Jordanian-Palestinian relations on the grounds of mutual understanding and joint cooperation, based on joint perceptions of the nature of the delicate stage the Palestine question is currently passing through, and the future plans.

They also called for strengthening ties of cooperation and understanding among Arab countries on the basis of mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of the PLO.

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## Ireland's economy faces possible distortion of data

DUBLIN: The impact of foreign companies which have moved to Ireland in the last 15 years is so great that much Irish economic data are "distorted and suspect", according to one economist.

Foreign companies, mostly American, account for 40 per cent of employment in Irish manufacturing and 80 per cent in manufacturing exports. Some leading economists believe their internal pricing policies may have led in figures for Irish exports being exaggerated, imports being under-recorded, and gross domestic product overstated.

The issue surfaced again recently when an internal central bank paper on the topic was leaked to Irish television. It was written by Dr. Patrick Honohan, an economic adviser in the prime minister's department, and suggested that, on the worst assumption, 5 per cent of recorded Gross National Product (GNP) could have been, in effect, fictitious.

Dr. Honohan's paper was written before a major revision of official statistics last May, designed in part to reflect the impact of the multinationals. The new figures greatly increased estimates of the profits of multinationals and the amount of these profits which are repatriated and calculated that foreign companies earned £1.1 billion (\$1.2 billion) profits in Ireland last year and repatriated £500 million.

About £500 million was transferred in the national accounts from a capital outflow to payments abroad. In other words, what had been calculated as investments by Irish people and businesses overseas — for want of a better explanation — was revealed as repatriation of profits abroad by multinational companies.

Mr. Allan Dukes, the finance minister, says these revisions mean Dr. Honohan's warnings are out of date, but economists are not convinced. Mr. Jim O'Leary, a member of the Irish National Planning Board, argues that the emphasis which has been placed on the growth of Irish exports may be illusory.

At issue is the question of multinational transfer pricing, where

companies undervalue their imports from subsidiaries and sell their exports at an artificially high price, in order to maximise the profits accruing in a particular location.

On the face of it, Ireland's generous tax allowances provide a strong incentive for transfer pricing. Most foreign companies pay no tax on their export earnings, while more recent arrivals pay 10 per cent.

Transfer pricing could also help explain the surprisingly weak relationship between the growth in Irish exports and general economic growth.

Exports make up 52 per cent of Irish GNP, a high figure by international standards. Yet, although exports grew in volume by an average 8 per cent a year between 1974-83, GNP growth in the same period averaged only 2 per cent.

Perhaps the best, if circumstantial, evidence of transfer pricing comes in the high productivity figures for industries such as pharmaceuticals and electronics.

According to the official statistics, output per employee in chemicals and office machinery, which includes the burgeoning electronics sector, was over £30,000. In pharmaceuticals the figure is over £75,000.

It is true that productivity is high in these new technology industries but Dr. Honohan's paper found no corresponding figures in other European countries for the same industries. Nor could they be explained by particularly high levels of capital investment.

Mr. Dukes claimed the discrepancy was due to the fact that the Irish plants are nearly all new, employing the latest technology, but that can hardly account for a situation where value added per employee in Ireland is almost twice the European Community (EC) average.

Have the Irish been fooling themselves about their booming exports and Japanese-style productivity improvements? One difficulty is that not everything is attributable to transfer pricing. Companies may be amortising the costs of research

and development outside Ireland in the prices they charge for the output from their Irish plants, as well as the costs of administration, distribution and marketing.

Such activities, typically, are not carried out in Ireland and the lack of them has been identified as a weakness in the country's industrial strategy.

The Industrial Development Authority (IDA) regards the attraction of such operations to Ireland as a key part of its strategy.

On top of these legitimate pricing policies, multinationals may also be engaged in transfer pricing, but no one else can tell to what extent.

"The Irish system of national accounts was not devised to deal satisfactorily with these issues, indeed it was devised at a time when these issues were of little significance", Mr. O'Leary said in last month's Irish Banking Review.

IDA officials make the point that, even if the claims of transfer pricing were correct — although they maintain they are exaggerated — the presence of the multinationals has benefited Ireland. Foreign companies spent almost £2 billion in Ireland last year on wages, services and raw materials and received £156 million in grants and aid.

Some commentators have argued that, if Ireland's tax breaks are so attractive, there is no need for the generous capital grants as well but IDA argues strongly that the country cannot afford to reduce its incentives at a time when competition for mobile investment has never been keener.

The biggest headache is for economic planners, who rely on published data for exports and industrial output in assessing economic performance. Proposals from the EC Commission on customs documentation would make transfer pricing more difficult to implement, but the spectre that haunts some Irish observers is that the multinationals may have come to Ireland precisely because of the opportunity it offers for tax avoidance.

— Financial Times news feature.

## EC jobless rate hits new peaks

LUXEMBOURG (R) — About 110,000 people joined the dole queues in European Community (EC) countries last month, raising unemployment levels to an all-time high of 12.8 million, the community's statistics agency Eurostat said Monday.

Eurostat said the rise could not be explained by purely seasonal factors, and that the underlying trend still appeared to be upwards.

The unemployment rate in member states, apart from Greece, rose to a record 11.4 per cent of the work force from 11.3 per cent in September, Eurostat added.

Figures for Greece are not included as Greece does not register all its jobless at public unemployment offices.

Seasonally-adjusted figures showed that unemployment in France, after a relatively long period of stability, had begun to rise again, but that the overall picture in West Germany and the Netherlands had improved in the last two months.

During the year to October, Eurostat said the number out of work within the nine countries had increased by 5.6 per cent.

The figures showed unemployment in France in the year to October climbed by 16 per cent, in Italy by eight per cent, and in Luxembourg, Ireland and Britain by just over four per cent.

Denmark and the Netherlands registered falls of nine and three per cent respectively, while the situation in West Germany and Belgium remained more or less the same, Eurostat said.

## Oil minister emphasises price level

DOHA (R) — Qatari finance and petroleum minister Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Khalifa Al Thani said Monday that any cut in oil prices might lead to a severe oil crisis in the early 1990s.

In an interview with the Arabic daily newspaper Al Raya, he also said OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) was determined to defend its oil prices, set at \$29 a barrel.

"Any cut in oil prices may lead to a severe crisis because international demand for oil is expected to increase in the early 1990s while production from current wells will drop," he said.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz did not elaborate, but said the initiative was still in OPEC's hands.

At a meeting in Geneva last month, OPEC members decided to slash production by 1.5 million barrels to 16 million barrels a day to help prop up prices following price cuts by non-OPEC Britain and Norway and OPEC member Nigeria.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz said he expected what he called the campaign against OPEC to continue with the setting up of more non-OPEC production areas in the North Sea and Mexico.

## Dollar controls market confidence

LONDON (R) — The dollar climbed to a four-week high Monday as currency markets saw only reasons to buy despite recent disappointing news about the U.S. economy's health.

After moving back above three marks last week, the dollar was fixed in Frankfurt at 3.547 marks, some four pfennigs higher than Friday and its highest fix since Oct. 30. Later it touched 3.06 marks as speculative bank buying led it within sight of its 1984 peak of 3.1765 marks reached two months ago.

Last week the dollar comfortably weathered a half-point cut in the Federal Reserve's discount rate to 8-1/2 per cent, which is likely to lead to lower U.S. bank lending rates fairly soon, amid

plenty of signals pointing to a cooling U.S. economy.

Dealers said that far from marring the attraction of the dollar, last week's action by U.S. financial authorities was evidence of the Federal Reserve's resolve to prevent the current slowdown in the American economy from turning into a recession.

At the same time, the market remains convinced that U.S. interest rates are unlikely to fall substantially without clear signs that Washington can rein in a federal budget deficit expected to reach

\$210 billion this fiscal year.

The reduction in lending rates by British banks last week and the possibility that West Germany's central bank might soon move to lower domestic German interest rates have also served to cushion the effect of the U.S. discount rate cut.

Foreign exchange dealers in Frankfurt said opinion there was mixed on whether the Bundesbank will cut interest rates when it meets on Thursday. If it did, that would soften the downward influence on the dollar from declining U.S. interest rates.

In addition to last week's cut in British interest rates, confidence in sterling remains denied by the stubborn resilience of the dollar and shaky spot-market oil prices, which remain well below their off-

icial posted levels.

Sterling sank another 1-3/4 cents Monday morning to just above \$1.20, its lowest level in over a month.

Another fall of that size would take it to its all-time London low against the American currency of \$1.1825 reached on Oct. 18.

Some dealers said that buying of sterling last week by foreign investors keen to take part in this week's record public flotation of the state-owned British Telecom telecommunications company had now slowed down, compounding pressure on the pound.

The Swiss franc was trading two centimes below Friday at 2.52 to the dollar, the French franc slipped 10 centimes to 9.37 and the yen was down to 245.80 from 245.20 on Friday.

## More Italians protest tax reforms

ROME (R) — More than a million of Italy's self-employed craftsmen and artisans, including bakers, plumbers and cabinet-makers, went on strike Monday in the latest protest against proposed tax reforms.

The one-day strike, called by the main artisan associations, deprived Italians of bread and other services like hairdressing and laundry.

The General Confederation of Artisans, largest of the associations, estimated more than a

million of its 1.5 million members on strike, while the artisans' Confederation of Independent Unions estimated that nearly 100,000 of its 130,000 members were taking part.

The craftsmen resent a fiscal bill by Finance Minister Bruno Visentini, who proposes making them pay fixed contributions to personal income and value added taxes in advance.

Mr. Visentini intends raising an additional 12,000 billion lire (\$6.4 billion) next year by this levy on

the country's four million self-employed traders, artisans and professionals, whom his ministry considers some of the worst tax evaders.

While craftsmen shouted anti-Visentini slogans in Rome, members of the senate (upper house) began a marathon sitting in an effort to approve the measure by Wednesday night.

Government party leaders decided on the non-stop session after

losing a whole day on Saturday through failure to achieve a senate quorum.

But senate socialist leader Mr. Fabio Fabbrì rejected a suggestion that the poor turnout reflected lack of support by other coalition parties for Mr. Visentini, a member of the Republican Party.

"With the frenetic pace of work in parliament, we just cannot keep people back on Saturdays," Mr. Fabbrì said.

### LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares ended the first day of the new account higher, responding to Wall Street's higher close on Friday and favourable weekend press comment on the response to the British Telecom flotation. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 12.3 at 1,171.1, just below the day's high.

Government bonds gave up midsession gains of up to 1/4 point to trade unchanged in the long end but around 1/4 point down in shorts after sterling briefly dipped below \$1.20.

Dealers said equities and bonds had benefited during the session from institutional investment of liquidity surplus to BT applications. North Americans eased and golds were lower.

The Confederation of British Industry's prediction of accelerating U.K. economic growth for next year provided a firm background to the day's trading. Among the leaders Bowater put on 7p to 194, GEC added 6p to 226 and ICI 10p to 664.

Oils closed below best levels on weakening spot oil prices having risen in line with the general market and news Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaky Yamani said demand for OPEC oil will soon outstrip supply. Shell was up 5p at 610 after 623.

Banks ended higher with Natwest up 8p to 562.

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.2045/55	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3195/98	Canadian dollars
	3.0525/40	West German marks
	3.4335/50	Dutch guilders
	2.5165/80	Swiss francs
	61.39/42	Belgian francs
	9.3420/70	French francs
	1891.5/1893.5	Italian lire
	245.70/80	Japanese yen
	8.7125/7225	Swedish crowns
	8.8550/8650	Norwegian crowns
	11.0100/0200	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	339.25/339.75	U.S. dollars

## China, Soviet Union may establish trade committee

PEKING (R) — Sino-Soviet trade is set to rise by 60 per cent this year and the estranged communist giants may establish a joint committee to boost it further, according to China's Communist Party chief Mr. Hu Yaobang.

He was quoted in the China Daily newspaper Monday as saying further increases in trade between the two neighbours, who were once allies but fell out over ideological issues in the late 1950s, were expected next year.

Mr. Hu told a group of visiting Japanese industrialists the two nations might set up some joint committees to promote trade and

economic and technical cooperation, but gave no details.

Western and Asian diplomats say they expect First Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Arkhipov to visit Peking next month, though no dates have been announced by the Chinese.

China and the Soviet Union both expressed the desire to improve their frosty relations during the latest round of talks on normalising ties last month, the Chinese foreign ministry said.

A press communique issued as Soviet envoy Mr. Leonid Ilyichov was leaving for home after three weeks of discussions said the two

countries wanted to expand economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and sporting links.

Peking and Moscow agreed in February to boost two-way trade by 60 per cent this year over 1983 to more than \$1 billion.

The two can both benefit from more trade links.

Western diplomats say Moscow wants food from China to feed Siberia, while the Chinese would like Soviet machinery and help to update factories in the northeast built by the Russians when relations were good in the 1950s.

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Harris

"This toothpaste is for people who don't have time for breakfast! It tastes like scrambled eggs!"

**JUMBLE.** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUYFS  
YATTS  
SPEEXO  
HAREMM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above option.

Answer: A "CROSS" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: GLOAT, SUMAC, INDUCE, RADISH. Answer: What that crazy artist made of his model — A MUDDLE.

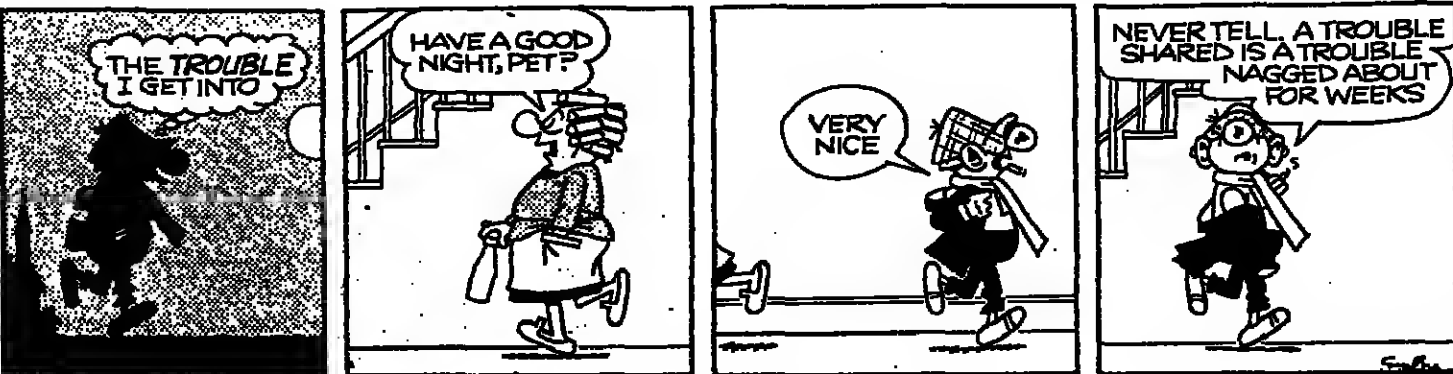
### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



### THE Daily Crossword by Dorothea E. Shipp

ACROSS

1. I've forgot
2. Bird
3. Barbary
4. Island off
5. Alas
6. Wrathful
7. Roman despot
8. Game played with marbles
9. Christie's
10. "Little Indians"
11. Lasso
12. Barrel out
13. Periodical
14. Part of Haverdahl's mit
15. Farm machinery
16. Son of Jacob
17. Vase letters
18. City of seven hills
19. "A woman — don't lay the gods"
20. Forever, old style
21. Maroon
22. Cylindrical and tapering
23. Black or Knight
24. Abominable
25. National monogram
26. Harp's cousin
27. Track of an animal
28. Chessmaster
29. Marbles
30. Preachiness
31. Winner
32. Earthy color
33. Bone; prof.
34. Sea bird
35. Certain students
36. Cease d — game
37. Down-at-heel
38. Regretted
39. Area
40. Valuable item
41. Brisk

DOWN

1. Milk comb.
2. Clear sky
3. Smart
4. Wine cask
5. Fr. river
6. Capricious
7. Ipa —
8. Frome and Allen
9. Female ruff
10. Leg joint
11. Old Eng. dramatist
12. Mistake
13. Bone; prof.
14. Sea bird
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

ACROSS

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4. Island off
5. Alas
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7. Roman despot
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19. Area
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# Pyongyang, U.N. Command trade charges over shooting

PANMUNJOM, Korea (Agencies) — North Korea and the U.S.-led United Nations Command (UNC) accused each other of starting a border gunbattle after the defection of a Soviet citizen at this frontier village on Friday.

UNC chief delegate Rear-Admiral Charles Horne said during a meeting of the Military Armistice Commission at this border village that North Korean soldiers intruded at least 150 metres across the military demarcation line into UNC territory.

He said the North Koreans had fired AK-47 automatic weapons as Soviet tourist Vasily Yakovlevich Matuzok escaped to the South.

Three North Korean soldiers and one South Korean were killed in the 40-minute gunbattle.

Adm. Horne said the North Korean action was "absolutely unlawful and the gravest violation" of the armistice agreement signed after the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. He also called on Pyongyang to apologize.

But North Korea's chief delegate, Li Tae-Ho, charged that the UNC side had fired at North Korean troops indiscriminately and demanded that those responsible be punished.

It is a premeditated criminal act by U.S. imperial aggressors to heighten tension in the Korean peninsula," Mr. Li said.

Mr. Li said the Americans committed the act at a time when North and South Korea had been increasing contacts to reduce tension.

Adm. Horne rejected Northern claims that the Soviet defector had inadvertently stepped over the demarcation line and had been dragged away by UNC guards against his will.

The UNC side showed a film containing an interview in which Mr. Matuzok said: "I decided to defect approximately two years ago when I was a student of the Moscow Institute of International Relations."

The 22-year-old Russian, who said he had been working at the Soviet embassy in Pyongyang, also told the film interviewer: "I crossed the military demarcation line of my own free will. It was quite a voluntary decision. There was no way to think of doing something other than defection."

A Seoul government source said Mr. Matuzok would be sent to Rome for processing by the U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), a procedure adopted when a Czechoslovak soldier defected to the South at Panmunjom in 1981.

A North Korean officer, attending the funeral for three of his soldiers killed in the firefight said that "the U.S. imperialist aggressors must pay dearly for their murder of our revolutionary comrades-in-arms," a Pyongyang broadcast reported Monday.

Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said the incident "proves that South Korean authorities had, in fact, no interest in dialogue and tried to bring it to a rupture from its outset, though they were compelled by home and

foreign public opinion to come out to the negotiation table."

It referred to South-North Korean meetings in Panmunjom earlier this month to discuss economic cooperation and ways to resume efforts to reunite families divided by Korea's nearly four-decade-long division.

The agency's broadcast, monitored in Tokyo, said Col. Kim Du Hwan, a North Korean member of the Armistice Commission, declared at Sunday's funeral: "All our hearts are burning with hatred and revengeful thought against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the heinous murderers and provocateurs."

It said he added: "Blood for blood. We must avenge our comrades on the provocateurs a thousand fold."

The agency said a "large number of people and soldiers" paid last respects to guards Hong Song Mun, Yun Gyong Chun and Kim Jong Chol before they were buried at Kaesong, just north of Panmunjom, to the accompaniment of funeral music and rifle salutes.

## World court confirms jurisdiction over U.S.-Nicaragua dispute

THE HAGUE (R) — The world court Monday confirmed it had jurisdiction over Nicaragua's complaint about alleged military aggression against it by the United States.

The confirmation dealt a setback to U.S. hopes of overturning an earlier court ruling that Washington should cease such action. In a series of majority decisions, the court rejected U.S. arguments

that the issue was not an appropriate one for it to judge and that Nicaragua had never properly ratified the jurisdiction of the court.

In an interim judgment last May, the 16-judge court, set up by the U.N. to rule on disputes between states, called on the U.S. to end support for any military action against Nicaragua's government.

That decision was seen by dip-

lomats as a propaganda blow against Washington's policy in Central America.

Although the court, whose full name is the International Court of Justice, has no specific means of enforcing its decisions, its judgment have a strong moral authority and have almost always been accepted by contending states.

## Kinnock meets Chernenko

MOSCOW (R) — British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock held talks in the Kremlin Monday with Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko.

The Kremlin talks represent the high point of Mr. Kinnock's week-long visit to the Soviet Union, which has coincided with the announcement that Washington and Moscow are to resume negotiations on nuclear arms reduction.

Mr. Kinnock said before meeting the Soviet leader that he would seek details on the Kremlin's attitude on the issue.

Mr. Chernenko, looking relatively fit and slightly tanned, got up from behind a table covered with a red cloth to greet Mr. Kinnock and Labour Foreign Affairs Spokesman Denis Healey as they entered his office in the Kremlin's Council of Ministers building.

Mr. Chernenko, suffering from his habitual breathlessness, opened the talks by telling Mr. Kinnock the Kremlin closely followed the activities of the Labour Party.

"We think highly of the role the party plays in British political life," he added, reading from a type-written script.

Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and the Kremlin's effective number two Mikhail Gorbachev were absent from the meeting.

## China to allow U.S. Navy port calls

PEKING (R) — Peking will allow U.S. warships to make ceremonial calls at Chinese ports for the first time since the Communist takeover in 1949, Communist Party Chief Hu Yaobang says.

The symbolic move cements growing military collaboration between the United States and China and follows discussions in Washington this month on possible U.S. help in modernising China's surface fleet.

"American warships will be allowed to visit China's ports if they are on ceremonial call and the request is made through diplomatic procedures," Mr. Hu told a group of visiting Japanese industrialists.

His remarks, reported Monday by the official China Daily newspaper, followed talks in Peking

this summer involving U.S. Navy Secretary John Lehman about a possible port call by American destroyers.

Western military sources said the two sides were discussing a visit next year to the Yellow Sea, port of Qingdao, but final arrangements had not been made.

A Chinese naval delegation headed by Admiral Chen Youming is now in the United States and the sources said China is interested in obtaining modern gas turbine engines which are used in U.S. destroyers.

Both China and the United States are worried by the growing Soviet naval presence in the Pacific and the South China Sea, as well as the use of the Vietnamese port of Cam Ranh Bay by Soviet

ships, Western diplomats said. They said that China, with increased oil exploration along its coast, would like to boost its naval capability. Naval Chief Liu Huang-qing has just visited Britain for a tour of naval bases and armaments factories.

China's navy has 360,000 men, 35 major surface combat ships, two nuclear-powered submarines and around 100 diesel attack submarines. But most of the vessels are seriously outdated and the Chinese are convinced they must modernise.

The semi-official China News Service said this month China was developing a new generation of tactical and strategic missiles, but other high-technology items may have to be imported.

## Paris blast injures six prior to Armenian show

PARIS (R) — Six people were wounded Sunday, five seriously, when a bomb exploded outside a Paris concert hall an hour before a performance by Armenian dancing groups, police said.

No one immediately claimed

responsibility for the blast, which shattered the entrance windows of the Salle Pleyel, one of Paris's largest concert halls. Police said it was too early to suggest who might have been responsible.

## World's 2nd artificial heart implant scores initial success

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (R) — William Schroeder and his doctors wept together when the 52-year-old grandfather regained consciousness after becoming the second person to receive an artificial heart.

Dr. William Jarvik, developer of the plastic and aluminum heart, said Sunday's seven-hour operation was "amazingly almost routine."

Compared with the first implant two years ago into Seattle dentist Barney Clark, who lived for 112 days before dying of multi-organ failure, the operation was "many times less difficult," Dr. Jarvik told reporters.

Mr. Schroeder, a father of six, was considered a poor candidate

for a heart transplant and would have lived for less than a week without the implant, doctors said.

He regained consciousness about 10 hours after entering the operating room at Humana Heart Institute International and responded to questions from Dr. William Devries, the chief surgeon, and Dr. Allan Lansing, director of the institute.

They said he squeezed their hands and all then wept. The doctors said Mr. Schroeder had further surgery, six hours after the implant, to correct excessive bleeding.

The second operation lasted about an hour but the doctors said they did not regard it as an emergency procedure.

## Communist Party member elected head of new Polish unions

WARSAW (R) — A long-time Communist Party member has been elected leader of Poland's new trade unions, but he vows not to be a puppet of the authorities, the official Polish News Agency PAP said Monday.

Alfred Miodowicz, 55, was chosen to head a national council and an executive committee which the unions set up last weekend at their first assembly since they replaced the outlawed Solidarity movement under martial law in 1982.

Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa said he knew of Mr. Miodowicz and would issue a statement on the new unions this week.

A brief biography of Mr. Miodowicz, issued by PAP, said he was a member of the former Communist Polish Youth Union (ZMP) from 1948 to 1952 and had been the union's local chairman in the southern city of Krakow.

In 1948 he joined the old official trade union movement, which Solidarity swept aside, and in 1959 he became a member of the Polish United Workers Party, or Communist Party.

PAP quoted Mr. Miodowicz as saying at the union assembly Sunday: "There is a worldwide opinion that the (new) Polish Trade Unions are submissive to the authorities. There will be no submission and we will see if the opinion is maintained."

The unionists say that, since the Communist Party and the new unions both aim to defend workers, they are natural allies. This is the ideological stance of official labour movements elsewhere in Eastern Europe.

Mr. Miodowicz identified the unions' main areas of concern as improvement of working conditions, health and environment issues and protection of the living standards of workers and pensioners.

He said the unions would be reluctant to accept food price rises, which the government has said it plans to introduce early next year. But he added: "It is possible to check these threats by means of talks between the two sides."

A motion adopted by the union assembly expressed confidence in the government's economic mea-



KINNOCK AT KREMLIN: British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock (right) holds talks in the Kremlin with Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko during Mr. Kinnock's week-long visit to the Soviet Union (see story this page) AP Wirephoto.

## Gandhi purges party ahead of election

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has dumped nearly a quarter of his sitting members of parliament to improve his party's image before next month's general election, diplomats and politicians said Monday.

The pro-Communist patriot newspaper said the move "was to cleanse the party of all those with sullied reputations or poor record in serving their constituencies."

Mr. Gandhi has dropped at least 83 of the current 348 members of parliament belonging to his Congress (I) Party. Party leaders were holding urgent talks Monday to decide on nominations for the 66 seats so far undecided. Nominations close Tuesday.

One Western diplomat told Reuters Congress (I) had fallen far in public esteem before the assassination of Indira Gandhi last month because of malpractice, nepotism and corruption.

"He had to do a springclean but

not so sweeping as to provoke a major revolt within the party," he said.

One of the most senior people to be dropped was former Congress Secretary-General A.R. Antulay, who said later he would seek re-election against the Congress candidate.

Mr. Antulay was chief minister in Maharashtra state before he was sacked in 1982 for alleged involvement in a cement scandal. "Not nominating Antulay shows Gandhi means he is serious about removing corruption in the party," V. Isvarnurti, a former Congress member of the southern Tamil Nadu State Assembly, said.

He said the fact Mr. Gandhi has renominated only two of the six members from Delhi constituencies showed that he had responded to public anger over communal riots which swept the city this month, in which at least 650 people were killed.

Congress Party working President K. Tripathi said last week that those members "having a really bad image because of corruption charges and moral turpitude" would not be renominated.

The diplomat said there were no signs yet of a major revolt among those not renominated. "Gandhi has gained more than he has lost. This was an excellent chance to clear out the deadwood."

Opposition parties said Monday they were holding urgent talks Monday on sharing seats in the election but said an agreement had not been reached in four key states.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said Monday the Communist-led Left Front, which rules the eastern state of West Bengal, had started active campaigning, with its youth members covering walls with party slogans and distributing pamphlets.

## Alfonsin wins in Beagle referendum

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine President Raul Alfonsin won a seemingly clear victory in a referendum on an proposed treaty with Chile, but the opposition Peronists alleged irregularities and questioned the results.

Near final official results of Sunday's poll showed 77 per cent of voters said "yes" and 21 per cent said "no" to the solution to the century-old conflict worked out in five years of mediation at the Vatican.

Officials said 73 per cent of the 18.4 million registered voters had cast their ballots in the first non-compulsory vote, and the first referendum, in Argentine history.

Top officials of Mr. Alfonsin's government said the results and high turnout were overwhelming

signs that it should sign the treaty that grants Chile three tiny islands near Cape Horn but divides waters as requested by Argentina.

Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli said Mr. Alfonsin was "satisfied" and really moved by the answer of Argentine society to the poll. State television quoted Foreign Minister Dante Caputo as saying the treaty would be signed on Nov. 29.

The Peronist Party, which campaigned for abstention, said that at least half the electorate voted against the treaty or abstained. They said two million eligible voters were not registered and recipients of free state food were pressured to vote.

"This was a very important victory for Peronism," Senator Vic-

ente Saadi said.

Another Peronist leader said the treaty would be subject to close scrutiny when it is sent to congress for ratification. The Peronists are just short of a majority in the Senate and could block the treaty with the help of provincial parties.

Peronists said the referendum was designed as a vote of confidence for the government to distract Argentines from economic problems.

Mr. Alfonsin had urged approval of the treaty as a first step towards Latin American integration. He said it would reduce arms expenditure and let Argentina concentrate on recovering the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands from Britain.

## Uruguay's Colorados claim election win

MONTEVIDEO (R) — The centre-right Colorado Party claimed victory Monday in Uruguay's first elections after 11 years of military rule and immediately received a pledge of cooperation from its main rival for power.

With a third of the ballots counted, the Colorados had polled 284,000 votes as against 246,000 for the second-place Blanco Party. The left-wing Broad Front Coalition had 131,000 votes.

On the basis of projections, Colorado presidential candidate Julio Sanguinetti told cheering supporters that he and his party had won.

Alberto Zumaran, the Blanco candidate for president, joined Mr. Sanguinetti on the platform and pledged cooperation.

Meanwhile, the top electoral official at the Interior Ministry, Col. Jose Khatcharian, told a news conference 40 per cent of returns from the capital contained "serious irregularities" in tallies and would have to be checked.

But Camilo Pereira Luduena, vice-president of the electoral court, which has the final say in election results, told Reuters the irregularities arose from mistakes made by officials at polling stations and would not affect the final outcome.

Sunday's election was the first since the military seized power in 1973 after crushing the left-wing Tupamaro guerrillas.

However the leaders of the Blanco Party and the Broad Front were banned from running.

The military government of President Gregorio Alvarez jailed Blanco Chief Wilson Ferreira Aldunate last June as he returned from 11 years in exile. He has been accused of having links with the now-defunct Tupamaros.

Broad Front leader Liber Seregni was released last March after 10 years in jail but remained under ban.

Mr. Sanguinetti now faces the twin tasks of healing Uruguay's economy, hit by slack markets for its traditional beef and wool exports, and of preventing a military comeback.

The military decided to call elections after proposals for giving them a permanent say in domestic security matters were defeated in a 1980 plebiscite.

## COLUMB

### Skeleton of homo erectus found

PEKING (R) — Chinese archaeologists have found an almost complete skeleton of *homo erectus*, believed to be at least 200,000 years old, the China Daily has said. The bones of *homo erectus*, early upright man who used stone tools and fire, were found in September, 400 kilometres north of Peking, the paper said. Professor Lu Zumer of Peking University, who found the skeleton, has been searching for such remains for 30 years. His team found animal bones and traces of fire nearby. China Daily said it was the first time that all vital limb bones as well as the skull and spine had been found together.

### Kissing is just a chemical addiction

LONDON (AP) — Kissing is just a chemical addiction, says an American dermatologist. Writing in the current issue of the British Journal of Dermatology, Dr. Bubba Nicholson of Tampa, Florida, says kissing is a kind of sucking behaviour intended to sample chemicals called "semiochemicals" which rest on the skin of the other person. Semiochemicals, which are not transmitted into the air, like perfumes, are substances that communicate a biological signal from one animal to another, he said. The special thing about kissing is that it gets the chemical message across directly from person to person and cuts out others. Dr. Nicholson said, "Skin sucking behaviour (kissing) allows only specific reception. You can be snuggled by a room full of people all at the same time but kissing needs permission," he wrote.

### Good news for a boy named Tractor

MOSCOW (R) — Russians burdened with ridiculous names by over-zealous Communist parents in the Stalinist era were reminded of their right to change and become a Boris or Tanya instead of "tractor" or "electricity". The Soviet Trades Union Daily Trud (labour) said recently it received numerous letters from people complaining about their names and reminded them that since 1971 they had the right officially to change names that were cumbersome or laughable. Examples cited were boys called "tractor" during the farm collectivisation period of the 1930s, girls named "electricity" in homage to Lenin's ideas of progress or "obligation", honouring the Communist work ethic. The newspaper quoted a letter from a middle-aged woman named Chelnaidina, an acronym in Russian for "chelyushkin" sailors on the ice, commemorating a dramatic air-sea rescue. "Oh to be a Tanya or a Lena, music to my ears," she said.

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## France encourages people to have more children

PARIS (R) — France's Socialist government has proposed extra grants to encourage people to have more children. Social Affairs Minister Georges Duflo said. The measures will provide for new family allowances, payable from six months before birth until the child is three years old. Up until now parents have received lump sums just before and after birth. The new scheme will also allow parents to take leave of absence for up to two years to raise the children.

### 400-year-old Eskimo body found

MADISON, Wisconsin (R) — Archaeologists have announced that they had found what may be the best preserved Eskimo body yet uncovered, giving them clues to a now extinct way of life in Alaska 400 years ago. The body, that of a 42-year-old Inuit woman, was one of two female bodies and three skeletons found in the permafrost in an Eskimo Indian burial ground at Barrow, Alaska. A report in Arctic Anthropology, a journal published by the University of Wisconsin, said the bodies were found in a well-preserved state, with the woman's body showing signs of having been buried in a "frozen" state. The researchers said, "It serves as a glimpse into the state of the environment as seen by the people who lived there at the time." Albert Dekin, a professor at the State University of New York at Binghamton, told Reuters.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### SHORT FOR THE COUP

Both vulnerable. West deals  
NORTH  
♦ K86  
♥ AK1082  
♦ AK75  
A

WEST EAST  
♦ AQJ107 ♥ 93  
♦ Q64 ♥ J973  
♦ Q982 ♦ J104  
♦ K ♦ J1073

SOUTH  
♦ 542  
♥ 75  
♦ 63  
♦ Q986542

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♦ Double Pass 2 ♦  
Pass 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♦  
Pass 3 ♥ Pass 4 ♦  
Pass 5 ♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♦.

Strange as it may seem, having too many trumps can be a disadvantage. To compensate, you might have to do a lot of ruffing. Consider this hand.

North tried to describe his powerful hand by first making a takeout double and then showing both of his suits. But South had only one story to tell, and he told it often enough for North to realize that his singleton ace of trumps was adequate

support. West led the ace of spades and continued with the queen. Declarer won in dummy and, when the ace of clubs fell the king, declarer, Jon Sorkin, of Cleveland, had to consider how to avoid losing two trump tricks.

Declarer cashed the ace of hearts to eliminate his spade loser, then ruffed a heart. He crossed back to the king of diamonds for another heart ruff, then to the ace of diamonds for a diamond ruff. By now, declarer had succeeded in reducing his trump length to that of East, and everyone at the table was down to three cards — in the case of declarer and East, all trumps.

The rest was simple. Declarer simply exited with the nine of trumps. East won with the ten, but he was now forced to lead away from the J-7 into declarer's Q-8-tenace. Declarer ended up losing only the ace of spades and a trump.

Just in case you come across this type of play in your home game, it is known in the trade as a "triple trump coup." Now you can tell your friends exactly what you achieved.